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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): WASHING-TON STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH FOUNDATION [US/US]; N.E. 1615 Eastgate Boulevard, Pullman, WA 99164–1802 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BOHLMANN, Joerg [DE/DE]; Sophienstrasse 21, D-0745 Jena (DE). STEELE, Christopher, L. [US/US]; 617 Campbell Street, Ardmore, OK 973401 (US). CROTEAU, Rodney, B. [US/US]; N.E. 1835 Valley Road, Pullman, WA 99163 (US).

(74) Agent: SHELTON, Dennis, K.; Christensen O'Connor Johnson & Kindness PLLC, Suite 2800, 1420 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (US).

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(54) Title: MONOTERPENE SYNTHASES FROM GRAND FIR (ABIES GRANDIS)

(57) Abstract

cDNAs encoding myrcene synthase, (-)-limonene synthase and (-)-pinene synthase from Grand fir (*Abies grandis*) haven been isolated and sequenced, and the corresponding amino acid sequences have been determined. Accordingly, isolated DNA sequences (SEQ ID NO:1; SEQ ID NO:3 and SEQ ID NO:5) are provided which code for the expression of myrcene synthase (SEQ ID NO:2), (-)-pinene synthase (SEQ ID NO:4) and (-)-limonene synthase (SEQ ID NO:6), respectively, from Grand fir (*Abies grandis*). In other aspects, replicable recombinant cloning vehicles are provided which code for myrcene synthase, (-)-limonene synthase and (-)-pinene synthase, or for a base sequence sufficiently complementary to at least a portion of myrcene synthase, (-)-limonene synthase or (-)-pinene synthase DNA or RNA to enable hybridization therewith. In yet other aspects, modified host cells are provided that have been transformed, transfected, infected and/or injected with a recombinant cloning vehicle and/or DNA sequence encoding myrcene synthase, (-)-limonene synthase or (-)-pinene synthase. Thus, systems and methods are provided for the recombinant expression of the aforementioned recombinant monoterpene synthases that may be used to facilitate their production, isolation and purification in significant amounts. Recombinant myrcene synthase, (-)-limonene synthase or (-)-pinene synthase in plants in order to enhance the production of monoterpenoids, or may be otherwise employed for the regulation or expression of myrcene synthase, (-)-limonene synthase, or the production of their products.

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MONOTERPENE SYNTHASES FROM GRAND FIR (Abies grandis)

Field of the Invention

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The present invention relates to nucleic acid sequences which code for monoterpene synthases from gymnosperm plant species, in particular from Grand fir (Abies grandis), including limonene synthase, myrcene synthase, and pinene synthase, to vectors containing the sequences, to host cells containing the sequences, to plant seeds expressing the sequences and to methods of producing recombinant monoterpene synthases and their mutants.

Background of the Invention

Chemical defense of conifer trees against bark beetles and their associated fungal pathogens relies primarily upon constitutive and inducible oleoresin biosynthesis (Johnson, M.A., and Croteau, R. (1987) in *Ecology and Metabolism of Plant Lipids* (Fuller, G., and Nes, W.D., eds.) pp. 76-91, American Chemical Society Symposium Series 325, Washington, DC; Gijzen, M., Lewinsohn, E., Savage, T.J., and Croteau, R.B. (1993) in *Bioactive Volatile Compounds from Plants* (Teranishi, R., Buttery, R.G., and Sugisawa, H., eds.) pp. 8-22, American Chemical Society Symposium Series 525, Washington, DC). This defensive secretion is a complex mixture of monoterpene and sesquiterpene olefins (turpentine) and diterpene resin acids (rosin) that is synthesized constitutively in the epithelial cells of specialized structures, such as resin ducts and blisters or, in the case of induced oleoresin formation, in undifferentiated cells surrounding wound sites (Lewinsohn, E., Gijzen, M., Savage, T.J., and Croteau, R. (1991) *Plant Physiol.* 96:38-43). The volatile fraction of conifer oleoresin, which is toxic to both bark beetles and their fungal

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associates (Raffa, K.F., Berryman, A.A., Simasko, J., Teal, W., and Wong, B.L. (1985) Environ. Entomol. 14:552-556), may consist of up to 30 different monoterpenes (Lewinsohn, E., Savage, T.J., Gijzen, M., and Croteau, R. (1993) Phytochem. Anal. 4:220-225), including acyclic types (e.g., myrcene), monocyclic types (e.g., limonene) and bicyclic types (e.g., pinenes) (FIGURE 1). Although the oleoresin is toxic, many bark beetle species nevertheless employ turpentine volatiles in host selection and can convert various monoterpene components into aggregation or sex pheromones to promote coordinated mass attack of the host (Gijzen, M., Lewinsohn, E., Savage, T.J., and Croteau, R.B. (1993) in Bioactive Volatile Compounds from Plants (Teranishi, R., Buttery, R.G., and Sugisawa, H., eds.) pp. 8-22. American Chemical Society Symposium Series 525, Washington, DC; Byers, J.A. (1995) in Chemical Ecology of Insects 2 (Cardé, R.T., and Bell, W.J., eds.) pp. 154-213, Chapman and Hall, New York). In Grand fir (Abies grandis), increased formation of oleoresin monoterpenes, sesquiterpenes and diterpenes is induced by bark beetle attack (Lewinsohn, E., Gijzen, M., Savage, T.J., and Croteau, R. (1991) Plant Physiol. 96:38-43; Raffa, K.F., and Berryman, A.A. (1982) Can. Entomol. 114:797-810; Lewinsohn, E., Gijzen, M., and Croteau, R. (1991) Plant Physiol. 96:44-49), and this inducible defense response is mimicked by mechanically wounding sapling stems (Lewinsohn, E., Gijzen, M., Savage, T.J., and Croteau, R. (1991) Plant Physiol. 96:38-43; Lewinsohn, E., Gijzen, M., and Croteau, R. (1991) Plant Physiol. 96:44-49; Funk, C., Lewinsohn, E., Stofer Vogel, B., Steele C., and Croteau, R. (1994) Plant Physiol. 106:999-1005). Therefore, Grand fir has been developed as a model system to study the biochemical and molecular genetic regulation of constitutive and inducible terpene biosynthesis in conifers (Steele, C., Lewinsohn, E., and Croteau, R. (1995) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 92:4164-4168).

Most monoterpenes are derived from geranyl diphosphate, the ubiquitous C₁₀ intermediate of the isoprenoid pathway, by synthases which catalyze the divalent metal ion-dependent ionization (to 1, FIGURE 1) and isomerization of this substrate to enzyme-bound linalyl diphosphate which, following rotation about C2-C3, undergoes a second ionization (to 2, FIGURE 1) followed by cyclization to the α-terpinyl cation, the first cyclic intermediate en route to both monocyclic and bicyclic products (Croteau, R., and Cane, D.E. (1985) *Methods Enzymol.* 110:383-405; Croteau, R. (1987) *Chem. Rev.* 87:929-954) (FIGURE 1). Acyclic monoterpenes, such as myrcene, may arise by deprotonation of carbocations 1 or 2, whereas the isomerization step to linalyl diphosphate is required in the case of cyclic

types, such as limonene and pinenes, which cannot be derived from geranyl diphosphate directly because of the geometric impediment of the trans-double bond at C2-C3 (Croteau, R., and Cane, D.E. (1985) Methods Enzymol. 110:383-405; Croteau, R. (1987) Chem. Rev. 87:929-954). Many monoterpene synthases catalyze the formation of multiple products, including acyclic, monocyclic and bicyclic types, by variations on this basic mechanism (Gambliel, H., and Croteau, R. (1984) J. Biol. Chem. 259:740-748; Croteau, R., Satterwhite, D.M., Cane, D.E., and Chang, C.C. (1988) J. Biol. Chem. 263:10063-10071; Croteau, R., and Satterwhite, D.M. (1989) J. Biol. Chem. 264:15309-15315). For example, (-)-limonene synthase, the principal monoterpene synthase of spearmint (Mentha spicata) and peppermint (M. x piperita), produces small amounts of myrcene, (-)- α -pinene and (-)- β -pinene in addition to the monocyclic product (Rajaonarivony, J.I.M., Gershenzon, J., and Croteau, R. (1992) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 296:49-57; Colby, S.M., Alonso, W.R., Katahira, E.J., McGarvey, D.J., and Croteau, R. (1993) J. Biol Chem. 268:23016-23024. Conversely, six different inducible monoterpene synthase activities have been demonstrated in extracts of wounded Grand fir stem (Gijzen, M., Lewinsohn, E., and Croteau, R. (1991) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 289:267-273) indicating that formation of acyclic, monocyclic and bicyclic monoterpenes in this species involves several genes encoding distinct catalysts. The inducible (-)-pinene synthase has been purified (Lewinsohn, E., Gijzen, M., and Croteau, R. (1992) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 293:167-173), and isotopically sensitive branching experiments employed to demonstrate that this enzyme synthesizes both (-)- α - and (-)- β -pinene (Wagschal, K., Savage, T.J., and Croteau, R. (1991) Tetrahedron 47:5933-5944).

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Deciphering the molecular genetic control of oleoresinosis and examining structure-function relationships among the monoterpene synthases of Grand fir requires isolation of the cDNA species encoding these key enzymes. Although a protein-based cloning strategy was recently employed to acquire a cDNA for the major wound-inducible diterpene synthase from Grand fir, abietadiene synthase (Funk, C., Lewinsohn, E., Stofer Vogel, B., Steele C., and Croteau, R. (1994) *Plant Physiol.* 106:999-1005; LaFever, R.E., Stofer Vogel, B., and Croteau, R. (1994) *Arch. Biochem. Biophys.* 313:139-149; Stofer Vogel, B., Wildung, M.R., Vogel, G., and Croteau, R. (1996) *J. Biol. Chem.* 271:23262-23268), all attempts at the reverse genetic approach to cloning of Grand fir monoterpene synthases have failed (Steele, C., Lewinsohn, E., and Croteau, R. (1995) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 92:4164-4168). As an alternative, a similarity-based PCR strategy was developed (Steele, C.,

Lewinsohn, E., and Croteau, R. (1995) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **92**:4164-4168) that employed sequence information from terpene synthases of angiosperm origin, namely a monoterpene synthase, (-)-4*S*-limonene synthase, from spearmint (*Mentha spicata*, Lamiaceae) (Colby, S.M., Alonso, W.R., Katahira, E.J., McGarvey, D.J., and Croteau, R. (1993) *J. Biol. Chem.* **268**:23016-23024), a sesquiterpene synthase, 5-epi-aristolochene synthase, from tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum*, Solanaceae) (Facchini, P.J., and Chappell, J. (1992) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **89**:11088-11092), and a diterpene synthase, casbene synthase, from castor bean (*Ricinus communis*, Euphorbiaceae) (Mau, C.J.D., and West, C.A. (1994) *Proc Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **91**:8497-8501).

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Monoterpenes have significant potential for cancer prevention and treatment. Monoterpenes such as limonene, perillyl alcohol, carvone, geraniol and farnesol not only reduce tumor incidence and slow tumor proliferation, but have also been reported to cause regression of established solid tumors by initiating apoptosis (Mills J.J., Chari R.S., Boyer I.J., Gould M.N., Jirtle R.L., *Cancer Res.*, **55**:979-983, 1995). Terpenes have activity against cancers such as mammary, colon, and prostate. Clinical trials are being pursued (Seachrist L, *J. NIH Res.* **8**:43) in patients with various types of advanced cancers to validate the health benefits of dietary terpenes for humans. However, terpenes are present in Western diets at levels that are probably inadequate for any significant preventive health benefits. Daily supplementation of the diet with a terpene concentrate (10-20 g/day) would appear to be the most rational strategy for dietary therapy of diagnosed cases of cancer. This invention envisages the production of such nutritionally beneficial terpenes in vegetable oils consumed daily via the engineering of relevant genes from Grand fir into oil seed crop plants such as oil seed brassica (canola), soybean and corn.

Brief Description of the Drawings

The foregoing aspects and many of the attendant advantages of this invention will become more readily appreciated as the same becomes better understood by reference to the following detailed description, when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIGURE 1 is a schematic representation depicting the mechanism for the conversion of geranyl diphosphate to myrcene, (-)-limonene, β -phellandrene, (-)- α -pinene and (-)- β -pinene by monoterpene synthases from Grand fir. Formation of the monocyclic and bicyclic products requires preliminary isomerization of geranyl diphosphate to linallyl diphosphate. The acyclic product could be formed

from either geranyl diphosphate or linalyl diphosphate via carbocations 1 or 2. *OPP* denotes the diphosphate moiety.

FIGURE 2 is a sequence comparison of plant terpene synthases. A three-letter designation (*Tps*) for the gene family is proposed with sub-groups (*Tpsa* through *Tpsf*) defined by a minimum of 40 % amino acid identity between members. The numbers in parenthesis are the references to the published sequences.

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FIGURE 3 depicts a GLC-MS analysis of the products of the recombinant protein encoded by AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1), the sequence of the protein encoded by clone AG2.2 being set forth in SEQ ID NO:2. The GLC profile of the total pentane-soluble products generated from geranyl diphosphate when incubated with a cell-free extract of $E.\ coli\ XL1$ -Blue/pGAG2.2 is illustrated (a), as are the mass fragmentation patterns for the monoterpene product with $R_I=12.22\ \text{min}$ (b) and for authentic myrcene (c).

FIGURE 4 depicts a GLC-MS analysis of the products of the recombinant protein encoded by AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3), the sequence of the protein encoded by clone AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3) being set forth in SEQ ID NO:4. The GLC profile of the total pentane-soluble products generated from geranyl diphosphate when incubated with a cell-free extract of $E.\ coli\ XL1$ -Blue/pGAG3.18 is illustrated (a), as are the mass fragmentation patterns (selected ion mode) for the monoterpene products with $R_I = 11.34\ \text{min}\ (b)$, and $R_I = 13.37\ \text{min}\ (d)$, and for authentic α -pinene (c) and authentic β -pinene (e).

FIGURE 5 depicts a GLC-MS analysis of the products of the recombinant protein encoded by AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5), the sequence of the protein encoded by clone AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5) being set forth in SEQ ID NO:6. The GLC profile of the total pentane-soluble products generated from geranyl diphosphate when incubated with a cell-free extract of E. coli BL21(DE3)/pSBAG10 is illustrated (a), as are the mass fragmentation patterns for the principal monoterpene product with R_I = 13.93 min (b) and for authentic limonene (c).

Summary of the Invention

In accordance with the foregoing, cDNAs encoding myrcene synthase, (-)-limonene synthase and (-)-pinene synthase from Grand fir (*Abies grandis*) have been isolated and sequenced, and the corresponding amino acid sequences have been deduced. Accordingly, the present invention relates to isolated DNA sequences which code for the expression of myrcene synthase, such as the sequence designated SEQ ID NO:1 which encodes myrcene synthase from Grand fir (*Abies grandis*), for

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the expression of (-)-pinene synthase, such as the sequence designated SEQ ID NO:3, which encodes the (-)-pinene synthase from Grand fir (Abies grandis) and for the expression of (-)-limonene synthase, such as the sequence designated SEQ ID NO:5, which encodes (-)-limonene synthase from Grand fir (Abies grandis). In other aspects, the present invention is directed to replicable recombinant cloning vehicles comprising a nucleic acid sequence, e.g., a DNA sequence which codes for a myrcene synthase, (-)-limonene synthase or (-)-pinene synthase, or for a base sequence sufficiently complementary to at least a portion of DNA or RNA encoding myrcene synthase, (-)-limonene synthase or (-)-pinene synthase to enable hybridization therewith (e.g., antisense RNA or fragments of DNA complementary to a portion of DNA or RNA molecules encoding myrcene synthase, (-)-limonene synthase or (-)-pinene synthase which are useful as polymerase chain reaction primers or as probes for any of the foregoing synthases or related genes). In yet other aspects of the invention, modified host cells are provided that have been transformed, transfected, infected and/or injected with a recombinant cloning vehicle and/or DNA sequence of the invention. Thus, the present invention provides for the recombinant expression of myrcene synthase, (-)-limonene synthase and (-)-pinene synthase, and the inventive concepts may be used to facilitate the production, isolation and purification of significant quantities of recombinant myrcene synthase, (-)-limonene synthase and (-)-pinene synthase (or of their primary enzyme products) for subsequent use, to obtain expression or enhanced expression of myrcene synthase, (-)-limonene synthase and (-)-pinene synthase in plants, microorganisms or animals, or may be otherwise employed in an environment where the regulation or expression of myrcene synthase, (-)-limonene synthase and (-)-pinene synthase is desired for the production of these synthases, or their enzyme products, or derivatives thereof. In another aspect, the present invention relates to manipulation of monoterpene production to enhance resistance to insects and/or accumulate nutritionally beneficial monoterpenes in oil seeds.

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiment

As used herein, the terms "amino acid" and "amino acids" refer to all naturally occurring L- α -amino acids or their residues. The amino acids are identified by either the single-letter or three-letter designations:

Asp	D	aspartic acid	Ile	I	isoleucine
Thr	T	threonine	Leu	L	leucine
Ser	S	serine	Tyr	Y	tyrosine

Glu	Е	glutamic acid	Phe	F	phenylalanine
Pro	P	proline	His	Н	histidine
Gly	G	glycine	Lys	K	lysine
Ala	Α	alanine	Arg	R	arginine
Cys	С	cysteine	Trp	W	tryptophan
Val	V	valine	Gln	Q	glutamine
Met	M	methionine	Asn	Ν	asparagine

As used herein, the term "nucleotide" means a monomeric unit of DNA or RNA containing a sugar moiety (pentose), a phosphate and a nitrogenous heterocyclic base. The base is linked to the sugar moiety via the glycosidic carbon (1' carbon of pentose) and that combination of base and sugar is called a nucleoside. The base characterizes the nucleotide with the four bases of DNA being adenine ("A"), guanine ("G"), cytosine ("C") and thymine ("T"). Inosine ("I") is a synthetic base that can be used to substitute for any of the four, naturally-occurring bases (A, C, G or T). The four RNA bases are A,G,C and uracil ("U"). The nucleotide sequences described herein comprise a linear array of nucleotides connected by phosphodiester bonds between the 3' and 5' carbons of adjacent pentoses.

The term "percent identity" means the percentage of amino acids or nucleotides that occupy the same relative position when two amino acid sequences, or two nucleic acid sequences are aligned side by side.

The term "percent similarity" is a statistical measure of the degree of relatedness of two compared protein sequences. The percent similarity is calculated by a computer program that assigns a numerical value to each compared pair of amino acids based on chemical similarity (e.g., whether the compared amino acids are acidic, basic, hydrophobic, aromatic, etc.) and/or evolutionary distance as measured by the minimum number of base pair changes that would be required to convert a codon encoding one member of a pair of compared amino acids to a codon encoding the other member of the pair. Calculations are made after a best fit alignment of the two sequences have been made empirically by iterative comparison of all possible alignments. (Henikoff, S. and Henikoff, J.G., *Proc. Nat'l. Acad. Sci. USA* 89:10915-10919, 1992).

"Oligonucleotide" refers to short length single or double stranded sequences of deoxyribonucleotides linked via phosphodiester bonds. The oligonucleotides are chemically synthesized by known methods and purified, for example, on polyacrylamide gels.

The term "myrcene synthase" is used herein to mean an enzyme capable of generating multiple monoterpenes from geranyl diphosphate. The principal and characteristic monoterpene synthesized by myrcene synthase is myrcene, which constitutes at least about 60% of the monoterpene mixture synthesized by myrcene synthase from geranyl diphosphate.

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The term "(-)-limonene synthase" is used herein to mean an enzyme capable of generating multiple monoterpenes from geranyl diphosphate. The principal and characteristic monoterpene synthesized by (-)-limonene synthase is (-)-limonene, which constitutes at least about 60% of the monoterpene mixture synthesized by (-)-limonene synthase from geranyl diphosphate.

The term "(-)-pinene synthase" is used herein to mean an enzyme capable of generating multiple monoterpenes from geranyl diphosphate. The principal and characteristic monoterpene synthesized by (-)-pinene synthase is (-)-pinene, which comprises at least about 60% of the monoterpene mixture synthesized by (-)-pinene synthase from geranyl diphosphate.

The abbreviation "SSPE" refers to a buffer used in nucleic acid hybridization solutions. The 20X (twenty times concentrate) stock SSPE buffer solution is prepared as follows: dissolve 175.3 grams of NaCl, 27.6 grams of NaH₂PO₄H₂O and 7.4 grams of EDTA in 800 millilitres of H₂O. Adjust the pH to pH 7.4 with NaOH. Adjust the volume to one liter with H₂O.

The terms "alteration", "amino acid sequence alteration", "variant" and "amino acid sequence variant" refer to monoterpene synthase molecules with some differences in their amino acid sequences as compared to the corresponding, native, i.e., naturally-occurring, monoterpene synthases. Ordinarily, the variants will possess at least about 70% homology with the corresponding native monoterpene synthases, and preferably, they will be at least about 80% homologous with the corresponding, native monoterpene synthases. The amino acid sequence variants of the monoterpene synthases falling within this invention possess substitutions, deletions, and/or insertions at certain positions. Sequence variants of monoterpene synthases may be used to attain desired enhanced or reduced enzymatic activity, modified regiochemistry or stereochemistry, or altered substrate utilization or product distribution.

Substitutional monoterpene synthase variants are those that have at least one amino acid residue in the native monoterpene synthase sequence removed and a different amino acid inserted in its place at the same position. The substitutions may

be single, where only one amino acid in the molecule has been substituted, or they may be multiple, where two or more amino acids have been substituted in the same molecule. Substantial changes in the activity of the monoterpene synthase molecules of the present invention may be obtained by substituting an amino acid with a side chain that is significantly different in charge and/or structure from that of the native amino acid. This type of substitution would be expected to affect the structure of the polypeptide backbone and/or the charge or hydrophobicity of the molecule in the area of the substitution.

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Moderate changes in the activity of the monoterpene synthase molecules of the present invention would be expected by substituting an amino acid with a side chain that is similar in charge and/or structure to that of the native molecule. This type of substitution, referred to as a conservative substitution, would not be expected to substantially alter either the structure of the polypeptide backbone or the charge or hydrophobicity of the molecule in the area of the substitution.

Insertional monoterpene synthase variants are those with one or more amino acids inserted immediately adjacent to an amino acid at a particular position in the native monoterpene synthase molecule. Immediately adjacent to an amino acid means connected to either the α -carboxy or α -amino functional group of the amino acid. The insertion may be one or more amino acids. Ordinarily, the insertion will consist of one or two conservative amino acids. Amino acids similar in charge and/or structure to the amino acids adjacent to the site of insertion are defined as conservative. Alternatively, this invention includes insertion of an amino acid with a charge and/or structure that is substantially different from the amino acids adjacent to the site of insertion.

Deletional variants are those where one or more amino acids in the native monoterpene synthase molecules have been removed. Ordinarily, deletional variants will have one or two amino acids deleted in a particular region of the monoterpene synthase molecule.

The terms "biological activity", "biologically active", "activity" and "active" refer to the ability of the monoterpene synthases of the present invention to convert geranyl diphosphate to a group of monoterpenes, of which myrcene is the principal and characteristic monoterpene synthesized by myrcene synthase, (-)-limonene is the principal and characteristic monoterpene synthesized by (-)-limonene synthase and (-)-pinene is the principal and characteristic monoterpene synthesized by (-)-pinene synthase. The monoterpenes produced by the monoterpene synthases of the present

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invention are as measured in an enzyme activity assay, such as the assay described in Example 3. Amino acid sequence variants of the terpene synthases of the present invention may have desirable altered biological activity including, for example, altered reaction kinetics, substrate utilization product distribution or other characteristics such as regiochemistry and stereochemistry.

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The terms "DNA sequence encoding", "DNA encoding" and "nucleic acid encoding" refer to the order or sequence of deoxyribonucleotides along a strand of deoxyribonucleic acid. The order of these deoxyribonucleotides determines the order of amino acids along the translated polypeptide chain. The DNA sequence thus codes for the amino acid sequence.

The terms "replicable expression vector" and "expression vector" refer to a piece of DNA, usually double-stranded, which may have inserted into it a piece of toreign DNA. Foreign DNA is defined as heterologous DNA, which is DNA not naturally found in the host. The vector is used to transport the foreign or heterologous DNA into a suitable host cell. Once in the host cell, the vector can replicate independently of or coincidental with the host chromosomal DNA, and several copies of the vector and its inserted (foreign) DNA may be generated. In addition, the vector contains the necessary elements that permit translating the foreign DNA into a polypeptide. Many molecules of the polypeptide encoded by the foreign DNA can thus be rapidly synthesized.

The terms "transformed host cell," "transformed" and "transformation" refer to the introduction of DNA into a cell. The cell is termed a "host cell", and it may be a prokaryotic or a eukaryotic cell. Typical prokaryotic host cells include various strains of *E. coli*. Typical eukaryotic host cells are plant cells, such as maize cells, yeast cells, insect cells or animal cells. The introduced DNA is usually in the form of a vector containing an inserted piece of DNA. The introduced DNA sequence may be from the same species as the host cell or from a different species from the host cell, or it may be a hybrid DNA sequence, containing some foreign DNA and some DNA derived from the host species.

The following abbreviations are used herein: bp(s), base pair(s); DEAE, ()-dicthylaminoethyl; DTT, dithiothreitol; EDTA, ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid; GC, gas chromatography; IPTG, isopropyl-β-D-thiogalactopyranoside; LB, Luria-Bertani; Mopso, 3-(N-morpholino)-2-hydroxypropane-sulfonic acid; MS, mass spectrum/ spectrometry; nt(s), nucleotide(s); ORF, open reading frame; PCR,

polymerase chain reaction; PVDF, polyvinylidenedifluoride; SDS, sodium dodecyl sulfate; Tris, tris(hydroxymethyl) aminomethane; UV, ultraviolet.

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In accordance with the present invention, cDNAs encoding myrcene synthase (SEQ ID NO:1), (-)-pinene synthase (SEQ ID NO:3) and (-)-limonene synthase (SEQ ID NO:5) from Grand fir (Abies grandis) were isolated and sequenced in the following manner. Based on comparison of sequences of limonene synthase from spearmint (Colby, S.M., Alonso, W.R., Katahira, E.J., McGarvey, D.J., and Croteau, R. (1993) J. Biol. Chem. 268:23016-23024), 5-epi-aristolochene synthase from tobacco (Facchini, P.J., and Chappell, J. (1992) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:11088-11092), and casbene synthase from castor bean (Mau, C.J.D., and West, C.A. (1994) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 91:8497-8501), four conserved regions were identified for which a set of consensus, degenerate primers were synthesized: Primer A (SEQ ID NO:7), Primer B (SEQ ID NO:8), Primer C (SEQ ID NO:9) and Primer D (SEQ ID NO:10). Primers A (SEQ ID NO:7), B (SEQ ID NO:8), and D (SEQ ID NO:10) were sense primers, while Primer C (SEQ ID NO:9), was an antisense primer. Each of the sense primers, A (SEQ ID NO:7), B (SEQ ID NO:8) and D (SEQ ID NO:10), was used for PCR in combination with antisense primer C (SEQ ID NO:9) by employing a broad range of amplification conditions. Analysis of the PCR reaction products by agarose gel electrophoresis revealed that only the combination of primers C (SEQ ID NO:9) and D (SEQ ID NO:10) generated a specific PCR product of approximately 110 bps.

The 110 bps PCR product was gel purified, ligated into a plasmid, and transformed into *E. coli* XL1-Blue cells. Plasmid DNA was prepared from 41 individual transformants and the inserts were sequenced. Four different insert sequences were identified, and were designated as probes 1 (SEQ ID NO:11), 2 (SEQ ID NO:12), 4 (SEQ ID NO:13) and 5 (SEQ ID NO:14). Probes 1 (SEQ ID NO:11), 2 (SEQ ID NO:12), 4 (SEQ ID NO:13) and 5 (SEQ ID NO:14) were used to screen a cDNA library made from mRNA extracted from wounded Grand fir stems, and the longest clone that hybridized to each of these probes was isolated and sequenced. Thus, clone *AG1.28* (SEQ ID NO:15) is the longest cDNA clone that hybridized to probe 1 (SEQ ID NO:11), clone *AG2.2* (SEQ ID NO:1) is the longest cDNA clone that hybridized to probe 2 (SEQ ID NO:12), clone *AG4.30* (SEQ ID NO:17) is the longest cDNA clone that hybridized to probe 4 (SEQ ID NO: 13), and clone *AG5.9* (SEQ ID NO:19) is the longest cDNA clone that hybridized to probe 5 (SEQ ID NO:14).

Truncated clone AG1.28 (SEQ ID NO:15) resembled most closely in size and sequence (72% similarity, 49% identity) a diterpene cyclase, abietadiene synthase, from Grand fir. Clones AG4.30 (SEQ ID NO:17) and AG5.9 (SEQ ID NO:19) encode sesquiterpene synthases. Sequence and functional analysis of clone AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1) revealed that it encoded the monoterpene synthase, myrcene synthase.

Alignment of the four new terpene synthase cDNA sequences AG1.28 (SEQ ID NO:15), AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1), AG4.30 (SEQ ID NO:17) and AG5.9 (SEQ ID NO:19) with that for abietadiene synthase (Stofer Vogel, B., Wildung, M.R., Vogel, G., and Croteau, R. (1996) J. Biol. Chem. 271:23262-23268) allowed the identification of several, conserved sequence motifs. Two new sense PCR primers, primer E (SEQ ID NO:21) and primer F (SEQ ID NO:22) were designed based on the sequence of the conserved protein sequence motifs. A new antisense PCR primer, primer G (SEQ ID NO:23), was designed based on limited sequence information available from pinene synthase. The combination of primer E (SEQ ID NO:21) and primer G (SEQ ID NO:23) amplified a cDNA product of 1022 bps, which was designated as probe 3 (SEQ ID NO:24).

Probe 3 (SEQ ID NO:24) was used to screen a cDNA library made from mRNA extracted from wounded Grand fir stems. Hybridization of 10^5 Grand fir λ ZAP II cDNA clones with probe 3 (SEQ ID NO:24) yielded two types of signals comprised of about 400 strongly positive clones and an equal number of weak positives, indicating that the probe recognized more than one type of cDNA. Thirty-four of the former clones and eighteen of the latter were purified, the inserts were selected by size (2.0-2.5 kb), and the *in vivo* excised clones were partially sequenced from both ends. Those clones which afforded weak hybridization signals were shown to contain inserts that were either identical to myrcene synthase clone AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1) or exhibited no significant sequence similarity to terpene synthases.

Clones which gave strong hybridization signals segregated into distinct sequence groups represented by clone AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3) and clone AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5). Both AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3) and AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5) were subcloned into plasmid expression vectors and expressed in $E.\ coli$. When extracts of the induced cells were tested for terpene synthase activity with all of the potential prenyl diphosphate substrates, only geranyl diphosphate was utilized. Extracts from $E.\ coli$ containing the AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5) expression construct converted geranyl diphosphate to the -4S enantiomer of limonene as the major product, indicating that

AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5) encodes (-)-limonene synthase. Similar analysis of the monoterpene products generated from geranyl diphosphate by cell-free extracts of $E.\ coli$ containing the AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3) insert ligated into an expression vector revealed the presence of a 42:58% mixture of α -pinene and β -pinene, the same product ratio previously described for the purified, native (-)-pinene synthase from Grand fir. These data indicate that AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3) encodes (-)-pinene synthase.

The isolation of cDNAs encoding (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase permits the development of efficient expression systems for these functional enzymes; provides useful tools for examining the developmental regulation of monoterpene biosynthesis; permits investigation of the reaction mechanism(s) of these unusual, multiproduct enzymes, and permits the isolation of other (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthases. The isolation of the (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase cDNAs also permits the transformation of a wide range of organisms in order to introduce monoterpene biosynthesis *de novo*, or to modify endogenous monoterpene biosynthesis.

Although the (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase proteins set forth in SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:4 and SEQ ID NO:2, respectively, direct the enzymes to plastids, substitution of the presumptive targeting sequence of each of these enzymes (SEQ ID NO:2, amino acids 1 to 61; SEQ ID NO:4, amino acids 1 to 61; SEQ ID NO:6, amino acids 1 to 66) with other transport sequences well known in the art (see, e.g., von Heijne et al., *Eur. J. Biochem.* 180:535-545, 1989; Stryer, *Biochemistry*, W.H. Freeman and Company, New York, NY, p. 769 [1988]) may be employed to direct the (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase to other cellular or extracellular locations.

In addition to the native (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:4 and SEQ ID NO:2, respectively, sequence variants produced by deletions, substitutions, mutations and/or insertions are intended to be within the scope of the invention except insofar as limited by the prior art. The (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase amino acid sequence variants of this invention may be constructed by mutating the DNA sequences that encode the wild-type synthases, such as by using techniques commonly referred to as site-directed mutagenesis. Nucleic acid molecules encoding the monoterpene synthases of the present invention

can be mutated by a variety of PCR techniques well known to one of ordinary skill in the art. See. e.g., "PCR Strategies", M.A. Innis, D.H. Gelfand and J.J. Sninsky, eds., 1995, Academic Press, San Diego, CA (Chapter 14); "PCR Protocols: A Guide to Methods and Applications", M.A. Innis, D.H. Gelfand, J.J. Sninsky and T.J. White, eds., Academic Press, NY (1990).

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By way of non-limiting example, the two primer system utilized in the Transformer Site-Directed Mutagenesis kit from Clontech, may be employed for introducing site-directed mutants into the monoterpene synthase genes of the present invention. Following denaturation of the target plasmid in this system, two primers are simultaneously annealed to the plasmid; one of these primers contains the desired site-directed mutation, the other contains a mutation at another point in the plasmid resulting in elimination of a restriction site. Second strand synthesis is then carried out, tightly linking these two mutations, and the resulting plasmids are transformed into a mutS strain of E. coli. Plasmid DNA is isolated from the transformed bacteria, restricted with the relevant restriction enzyme (thereby linearizing the unmutated plasmids), and then retransformed into E. coli. This system allows for generation of mutations directly in an expression plasmid, without the necessity of subcloning or generation of single-stranded phagemids. The tight linkage of the two mutations and the subsequent linearization of unmutated plasmids results in high mutation efficiency and allows minimal screening. Following synthesis of the initial restriction site primer, this method requires the use of only one new primer type per mutation site. Rather than prepare each positional mutant separately, a set of "designed degenerate" oligonucleotide primers can be synthesized in order to introduce all of the desired mutations at a given site simultaneously. Transformants can be screened by sequencing the plasmid DNA through the mutagenized region to identify and sort mutant clones. Each mutant DNA can then be restricted and analyzed by electrophoresis on Mutation Detection Enhancement gel (J.T. Baker) to confirm that no other alterations in the sequence have occurred (by band shift comparison to the unmutagenized control).

The verified mutant duplexes in the pET (or other) overexpression vector can be employed to transform *E. coli* such as strain *E. coli* BL21(DE3)pLysS, for high level production of the mutant protein, and purification by standard protocols. The method of FAB-MS mapping can be employed to rapidly check the fidelity of mutant expression. This technique provides for sequencing segments throughout the whole protein and provides the necessary confidence in the sequence assignment. In a

mapping experiment of this type, protein is digested with a protease (the choice will depend on the specific region to be modified since this segment is of prime interest and the remaining map should be identical to the map of unmutagenized protein). The set of cleavage fragments is fractionated by microbore HPLC (reversed phase or ion exchange, again depending on the specific region to be modified) to provide several peptides in each fraction, and the molecular weights of the peptides are determined by FAB-MS. The masses are then compared to the molecular weights of peptides expected from the digestion of the predicted sequence, and the correctness of the sequence quickly ascertained. Since this mutagenesis approach to protein modification is directed, sequencing of the altered peptide should not be necessary if the MS agrees with prediction. If necessary to verify a changed residue, CAD-tandem MS/MS can be employed to sequence the peptides of the mixture in question, or the target peptide purified for subtractive Edman degradation or carboxypeptidase Y digestion depending on the location of the modification.

In the design of a particular site directed mutagenesis, it is generally desirable to first make a non-conservative substitution (e.g., Ala for Cys, His or Glu) and determine if activity is greatly impaired as a consequence. The properties of the mutagenized protein are then examined with particular attention to the kinetic parameters of K_m and k_{cat} as sensitive indicators of altered function, from which changes in binding and/or catalysis $per\ se$ may be deduced by comparison to the native enzyme. If the residue is by this means demonstrated to be important by activity impairment, or knockout, then conservative substitutions can be made, such as Asp for Glu to alter side chain length, Ser for Cys, or Arg for His. For hydrophobic segments, it is largely size that is usefully altered, although aromatics can also be substituted for alkyl side chains. Changes in the normal product distribution can indicate which step(s) of the reaction sequence have been altered by the mutation. Modification of the hydrophobic pocket can be employed to change binding conformations for substrates and result in altered regiochemistry and/or stereochemistry.

Other site directed mutagenesis techniques may also be employed with the nucleotide sequences of the invention. For example, restriction endonuclease digestion of DNA followed by ligation may be used to generate deletion variants of (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase, as described in section 15.3 of Sambrook et al. (*Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, 2nd Ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, New York, NY [1989]). A similar strategy

may be used to construct insertion variants, as described in section 15.3 of Sambrook et al., *supra*.

Oligonucleotide-directed mutagenesis may also be employed for preparing substitution variants of this invention. It may also be used to conveniently prepare the deletion and insertion variants of this invention. This technique is well known in the art as described by Adelman et al. (*DNA* 2:183 [1983]); Sambrook et al., *supra*; "Current Protocols in Molecular Biology", 1991, Wiley (NY), F.T. Ausubel, R. Brent, R.E. Kingston, D.D. Moore, J.D. Seidman, J.A. Smith and K. Struhl, eds.

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Generally, oligonucleotides of at least 25 nucleotides in length are used to insert, delete or substitute two or more nucleotides in the (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase molecule. An optimal oligonucleotide will have 12 to 15 perfectly matched nucleotides on either side of the nucleotides coding for the mutation. To mutagenize wild-type (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase, the oligonucleotide is annealed to the single-stranded DNA template molecule under suitable hybridization conditions. A DNA polymerizing enzyme, usually the Klenow fragment of *E. coli* DNA polymerase I, is then added. This enzyme uses the oligonucleotide as a primer to complete the synthesis of the mutation-bearing strand of DNA. Thus, a heteroduplex molecule is formed such that one strand of DNA encodes the wild-type synthase inserted in the vector, and the second strand of DNA encodes the mutated form of the synthase inserted into the same vector. This heteroduplex molecule is then transformed into a suitable host cell.

Mutants with more than one amino acid substituted may be generated in one of several ways. If the amino acids are located close together in the polypeptide chain, they may be mutated simultaneously using one oligonucleotide that codes for all of the desired amino acid substitutions. If however, the amino acids are located some distance from each other (separated by more than ten amino acids, for example) it is more difficult to generate a single oligonucleotide that encodes all of the desired changes. Instead, one of two alternative methods may be employed. In the first method, a separate oligonucleotide is generated for each amino acid to be substituted. The oligonucleotides are then annealed to the single-stranded template DNA simultaneously, and the second strand of DNA that is synthesized from the template will encode all of the desired amino acid substitutions. An alternative method involves two or more rounds of mutagenesis to produce the desired mutant. The first round is as described for the single mutants: wild-type (-)-limonene synthase,

(-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase DNA is used for the template, an oligonucleotide encoding the first desired amino acid substitution(s) is annealed to this template, and the heteroduplex DNA molecule is then generated. The second round of mutagenesis utilizes the mutated DNA produced in the first round of mutagenesis as the template. Thus, this template already contains one or more mutations. The oligonucleotide encoding the additional desired amino acid substitution(s) is then annealed to this template, and the resulting strand of DNA now encodes mutations from both the first and second rounds of mutagenesis. This resultant DNA can be used as a template in a third round of mutagenesis, and so on.

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A gene encoding (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase may be incorporated into any organism (intact plant, animal, microbe, etc.), or cell culture derived therefrom, that produces geranyl diphosphate. A (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase gene may be introduced into any organism for a variety of purposes including, but not limited to: production of (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase, or their products; production or modification of flavor and aroma properties; improvement of defense capability, and the alteration of other ecological interactions mediated by myrcene, (-)-limonene, (-)-pinene, or their derivatives.

Eukaryotic expression systems may be utilized for the production of (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase since they are capable of carrying out any required posttranslational modifications and of directing the enzymes to the proper membrane location. A representative eukaryotic expression system for this purpose uses the recombinant baculovirus, Autographa californica nuclear polyhedrosis virus (AcNPV; M.D. Summers and G.E. Smith, A Manual of Methods for Baculovirus Vectors and Insect Cell Culture Procedures [1986]; Luckow et al., Bio-technology 6:47-55 [1987]) for expression of the terpenoid synthases of the invention. Infection of insect cells (such as cells of the species Spodoptera frugiperda) with the recombinant baculoviruses allows for the production of large amounts of the monoterpenoid synthase proteins. In addition, the baculovirus system has other important advantages for the production of recombinant (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase. For example, baculoviruses do not infect humans and can therefore be safely handled in large quantities. In the baculovirus system, a DNA construct is prepared including a DNA segment encoding (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase and a vector. The vector may comprise the polyhedron gene promoter region of a

baculovirus, the baculovirus flanking sequences necessary for proper cross-over during recombination (the flanking sequences comprise about 200-300 base pairs adjacent to the promoter sequence) and a bacterial origin of replication which permits the construct to replicate in bacteria. The vector is constructed so that (i) the DNA segment is placed adjacent (or operably linked or "downstream" or "under the control of") to the polyhedron gene promoter and (ii) the promoter/monoterpene synthase combination is flanked on both sides by 200-300 base pairs of baculovirus DNA (the flanking sequences).

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To produce the monoterpene synthase DNA construct, a cDNA clone encoding the full length (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase is obtained using methods such as those described herein. The DNA construct is contacted in a host cell with baculovirus DNA of an appropriate baculovirus (that is, of the same species of baculovirus as the promoter encoded in the construct) under conditions such that recombination is effected. The resulting recombinant baculoviruses encode the full (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase. For example, an insect host cell can be cotransfected or transfected separately with the DNA construct and a functional baculovirus. Resulting recombinant baculoviruses can then be isolated and used to infect cells to effect production of the monoterpene synthase. Host insect cells include, for example, Spodoptera frugiperda cells, that are capable of producing a baculovirusexpressed monoterpene synthase. Insect host cells infected with a recombinant baculovirus of the present invention are then cultured under conditions allowing expression of the baculovirus-encoded (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase. (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase thus produced are then extracted from the cells using methods known in the art.

Other eukaryotic microbes such as yeasts may also be used to practice this invention. The baker's yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, is a commonly used yeast, although several other strains are available. The plasmid YRp7 (Stinchcomb et al., *Nature* 282:39 [1979]; Kingsman et al., *Gene* 7:141 [1979]; Tschemper et al., *Gene* 10:157 [1980]) is commonly used as an expression vector in *Saccharomyces*. This plasmid contains the trp1 gene that provides a selection marker for a mutant strain of yeast lacking the ability to grow in tryptophan, such as strains ATCC No. 44,076 and PEP4-1 (Jones, *Genetics* 85:12 [1977]). The presence of the trp1 lesion as a characteristic of the yeast host cell genome then provides an effective environment for detecting transformation by growth in the absence of tryptophan. Yeast host cells

are generally transformed using the polyethylene glycol method, as described by Hinnen (*Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 75:1929 [1978]). Additional yeast transformation protocols are set forth in Gietz et al., *N.A.R.* 20(17) 1425(1992); Reeves et al., *FEMS* 99(2-3):193-197, (1992).

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Suitable promoting sequences in yeast vectors include the promoters for 3-phosphoglycerate kinase (Hitzeman et al., J. Biol. Chem. 255:2073 [1980]) or other glycolytic enzymes (Hess et al., J. Adv. Enzyme Reg. 7:149 [1968]; Holland et al., Biochemistry 17:4900 [1978]), such as enolase, glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase. hexokinase, pyruvate decarboxylase, phosphofructokinase. glucose-6-phosphate isomerase, 3-phosphoglycerate mutase, pyruvate kinase, triosephosphate isomerase, phosphoglucose isomerase, and glucokinase. In the construction of suitable expression plasmids, the termination sequences associated with these genes are also ligated into the expression vector 3' of the sequence desired to be expressed to provide polyadenylation of the mRNA and termination. Other promoters that have the additional advantage of transcription controlled by growth conditions are the promoter region for alcohol dehydrogenase 2, isocytochrome C, acid phosphatase, degradative enzymes associated with nitrogen metabolism, and the aforementioned glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase, and enzymes responsible for maltose and galactose utilization. Any plasmid vector containing yeast-compatible promoter, origin of replication and termination sequences is suitable.

Cell cultures derived from multicellular organisms, such as plants, may be used as hosts to practice this invention. Transgenic plants can be obtained, for example, by transferring plasmids that encode (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase and a selectable marker gene, e.g., the kan gene encoding resistance to kanamycin, into *Agrobacterium tumifaciens* containing a helper Ti plasmid as described in Hoeckema et al., *Nature* 303:179-181 [1983] and culturing the *Agrobacterium* cells with leaf slices of the plant to be transformed as described by An et al., *Plant Physiology* 81:301-305 [1986]. Transformation of cultured plant host cells is normally accomplished through *Agrobacterium tumifaciens*, as described above. Cultures of mammalian host cells and other host cells that do not have rigid cell membrane barriers are usually transformed using the calcium phosphate method as originally described by Graham and Van der Eb (*Virology* 52:546 [1978]) and modified as described in sections 16.32-16.37 of Sambrook et al., *supra*. However, other methods for introducing DNA into cells

such as Polybrene (Kawai and Nishizawa, Mol. Cell. Biol. 4:1172 [1984]), protoplast fusion (Schaffner, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 77:2163 [1980]), electroporation (Neumann et al., EMBO J. 1:841 [1982]), and direct microinjection into nuclei (Capecchi, Cell 22:479 [1980]) may also be used. Additionally, animal transformation strategies are reviewed in Monastersky G.M. and Robl, J.M., Strategies in Transgenic Animal Science, ASM Press, Washington, D.C., 1995. Transformed plant calli may be selected through the selectable marker by growing the cells on a medium containing, e.g., kanamycin, and appropriate amounts of phytohormone such as naphthalene acetic acid and benzyladenine for callus and shoot induction. The plant cells may then be regenerated and the resulting plants transferred to soil using techniques well known to those skilled in the art.

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In addition, a gene regulating (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase production can be incorporated into the plant along with a necessary promoter which is inducible. In the practice of this embodiment of the invention, a promoter that only responds to a specific external or internal stimulus is fused to the target cDNA. Thus, the gene will not be transcribed except in response to the specific stimulus. As long as the gene is not being transcribed, its gene product is not produced.

An illustrative example of a responsive promoter system that can be used in the practice of this invention is the glutathione-S-transferase (GST) system in maize. 20 GSTs are a family of enzymes that can detoxify a number of hydrophobic electrophilic compounds that often are used as pre-emergent herbicides (Weigand et al., Plant Molecular Biology 7:235-243 [1986]). Studies have shown that the GSTs are directly involved in causing this enhanced herbicide tolerance. This action is primarily mediated through a specific 1.1 kb mRNA transcription 25 product. In short, maize has a naturally occurring quiescent gene already present that can respond to external stimuli and that can be induced to produce a gene product. This gene has previously been identified and cloned. Thus, in one embodiment of this invention, the promoter is removed from the GST responsive gene and attached to a (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase gene that 30 previously has had its native promoter removed. This engineered gene is the combination of a promoter that responds to an external chemical stimulus and a gene responsible for successful production of (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase.

In addition to the methods described above, several methods are known in the art for transferring cloned DNA into a wide variety of plant species, including gymnosperms, angiosperms, monocots and dicots (see, e.g., Glick and Thompson, eds., *Methods in Plant Molecular Biology*, CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida [1993]). Representative examples include electroporation-facilitated DNA uptake by protoplasts (Rhodes et al., *Science* 240(4849):204-207 [1988]); treatment of protoplasts with polyethylene glycol (Lyznik et al., *Plant Molecular Biology* 13:151-161 [1989]); and bombardment of cells with DNA laden microprojectiles (Klein et al., *Plant Physiol.* 91:440-444 [1989] and Boynton et al., *Science* 240(4858):1534-1538 [1988]). Additionally, plant transformation strategies and techniques are reviewed in Birch, R.G., *Ann Rev Plant Phys Plant Mol Biol* 48:297 (1997); Forester et al., *Exp. Agric.* 33:15-33 (1997). Minor variations make these technologies applicable to a broad range of plant species.

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Each of these techniques has advantages and disadvantages. In each of the techniques, DNA from a plasmid is genetically engineered such that it contains not only the gene of interest, but also selectable and screenable marker genes. A selectable marker gene is used to select only those cells that have integrated copies of the plasmid (the construction is such that the gene of interest and the selectable and screenable genes are transferred as a unit). The screenable gene provides another check for the successful culturing of only those cells carrying the genes of interest. A commonly used selectable marker gene is neomycin phosphotransferase II (NPT II). This gene conveys resistance to kanamycin, a compound that can be added directly to the growth media on which the cells grow. Plant cells are normally susceptible to kanamycin and, as a result, die. The presence of the NPT II gene overcomes the effects of the kanamycin and each cell with this gene remains viable. Another selectable marker gene which can be employed in the practice of this invention is the gene which confers resistance to the herbicide glufosinate (Basta). A screenable gene commonly used is the \beta-glucuronidase gene (GUS). The presence of this gene is characterized using a histochemical reaction in which a sample of putatively transformed cells is treated with a GUS assay solution. After an appropriate incubation, the cells containing the GUS gene turn blue.

The plasmid containing one or more of these genes is introduced into either plant protoplasts or callus cells by any of the previously mentioned techniques. If the marker gene is a selectable gene, only those cells that have incorporated the DNA package survive under selection with the appropriate phytotoxic agent. Once the

appropriate cells are identified and propagated, plants are regenerated. Progeny from the transformed plants must be tested to insure that the DNA package has been successfully integrated into the plant genome.

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Mammalian host cells may also be used in the practice of the invention. Examples of suitable mammalian cell lines include monkey kidney CVI line transformed by SV40 (COS-7, ATCC CRL 1651); human embryonic kidney line 293S (Graham et al., J. Gen. Virol. 36:59 [1977]); baby hamster kidney cells (BHK, ATCC CCL 10); Chinese hamster ovary cells (Urlab and Chasin, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci USA 77:4216 [1980]); mouse sertoli cells (TM4, Mather, Biol. Reprod. 23:243 [1980]); monkey kidney cells (CVI-76, ATCC CCL 70); African green monkey kidney cells (VERO-76, ATCC CRL-1587); human cervical carcinoma cells (HELA, ATCC CCL 2); canine kidney cells (MDCK, ATCC CCL 34); buffalo rat liver cells (BRL 3A, ATCC CRL 1442); human lung cells (W138, ATCC CCL 75); human liver cells (Hep G2, HB 8065); mouse mammary tumor cells (MMT 060562, ATCC CCL 51); rat hepatoma cells (HTC, MI.54, Baumann et al., J. Cell Biol. 85:1 [1980]); and TRI cells (Mather et al., Annals N.Y. Acad. Sci. 383:44 [1982]). Expression vectors for these cells ordinarily include (if necessary) DNA sequences for an origin of replication, a promoter located in front of the gene to be expressed, a ribosome binding site, an RNA splice site, a polyadenylation site, and a transcription terminator site.

Promoters used in mammalian expression vectors are often of viral origin. These viral promoters are commonly derived from polyoma virus, Adenovirus 2, and most frequently Simian Virus 40 (SV40). The SV40 virus contains two promoters that are termed the early and late promoters. These promoters are particularly useful because they are both easily obtained from the virus as one DNA fragment that also contains the viral origin of replication (Fiers et al., *Nature* 273:113 [1978]). Smaller or larger SV40 DNA fragments may also be used, provided they contain the approximately 250-bp sequence extending from the HindIII site toward the Bgll site located in the viral origin of replication.

Alternatively, promoters that are naturally associated with the foreign gene (homologous promoters) may be used provided that they are compatible with the host cell line selected for transformation.

An origin of replication may be obtained from an exogenous source, such as SV40 or other virus (e.g., Polyoma, Adeno, VSV, BPV) and inserted into the cloning vector. Alternatively, the origin of replication may be provided by the host cell

chromosomal replication mechanism. If the vector containing the foreign gene is integrated into the host cell chromosome, the latter is often sufficient.

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The use of a secondary DNA coding sequence can enhance production levels of (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase in transformed The secondary coding sequence typically comprises the enzyme dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR). The wild-type form of DHFR is normally inhibited by the chemical methotrexate (MTX). The level of DHFR expression in a cell will vary depending on the amount of MTX added to the cultured host cells. An additional feature of DHFR that makes it particularly useful as a secondary sequence is that it can be used as a selection marker to identify transformed cells. Two forms of DHFR are available for use as secondary sequences, wild-type DHFR and MTXresistant DHFR. The type of DHFR used in a particular host cell depends on whether the host cell is DHFR deficient (such that it either produces very low levels of DHFR endogenously, or it does not produce functional DHFR at all). DHFR-deficient cell lines such as the CHO cell line described by Urlaub and Chasin, supra, are transformed with wild-type DHFR coding sequences. After transformation, these DHFR-deficient cell lines express functional DHFR and are capable of growing in a culture medium lacking the nutrients hypoxanthine, glycine and thymidine. Nontransformed cells will not survive in this medium.

The MTX-resistant form of DHFR can be used as a means of selecting for transformed host cells in those host cells that endogenously produce normal amounts of functional DHFR that is MTX sensitive. The CHO-Kl cell line (ATCC No. CL 61) possesses these characteristics, and is thus a useful cell line for this purpose. The addition of MTX to the cell culture medium will permit only those cells transformed with the DNA encoding the MTX-resistant DHFR to grow. The nontransformed cells will be unable to survive in this medium.

Prokaryotes may also be used as host cells for the initial cloning steps of this invention. They are particularly useful for rapid production of large amounts of DNA, for production of single-stranded DNA templates used for site-directed mutagenesis, for screening many mutants simultaneously, and for DNA sequencing of the mutants generated. Suitable prokaryotic host cells include *E. coli* K12 strain 94 (ATCC No. 31,446), *E. coli* strain W3110 (ATCC No. 27,325) *E. coli* X1776 (ATCC No. 31,537), and *E. coli* B; however many other strains of *E. coli*, such as HB101, JM101, NM522, NM538, NM539, and many other species and genera of prokaryotes including bacilli such as *Bacillus subtilis*, other

enterobacteriaceae such as Salmonella typhimurium or Serratia marcesans, and various Pseudomonas species may all be used as hosts. Prokaryotic host cells or other host cells with rigid cell walls are preferably transformed using the calcium chloride method as described in section 1.82 of Sambrook et al., supra. Alternatively, electroporation may be used for transformation of these cells. Prokaryote transformation techniques are set forth in Dower, W.J., in Genetic Engineering, Principles and Methods, 12:275-296, Plenum Publishing Corp., 1990; Hanahan et al., Meth. Enxymol., 204:63 (1991).

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As a representative example, cDNA sequences encoding (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase or myrcene synthase may be transferred to the (His)6. Tag pET vector commercially available (from Novagen) for overexpression in E coli as heterologous host. This pET expression plasmid has several advantages in high level heterologous expression systems. The desired cDNA insert is ligated in frame to plasmid vector sequences encoding six histidines followed by a highly specific protease recognition site (thrombin) that are joined to the amino terminus codon of the target protein. The histidine "block" of the expressed fusion protein promotes very tight binding to immobilized metal ions and permits rapid purification of the recombinant protein by immobilized metal ion affinity chromatography. The histidine leader sequence is then cleaved at the specific proteolysis site by treatment of the purified protein with thrombin, and the (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase again purified by immobilized metal ion affinity chromatography, this time using a shallower imidazole gradient to elute the recombinant synthases while leaving the histidine block still adsorbed. overexpression-purification system has high capacity, excellent resolving power and is fast, and the chance of a contaminating E. coli protein exhibiting similar binding behavior (before and after thrombin proteolysis) is extremely small.

As will be apparent to those skilled in the art, any plasmid vectors containing replicon and control sequences that are derived from species compatible with the host cell may also be used in the practice of the invention. The vector usually has a replication site, marker genes that provide phenotypic selection in transformed cells, one or more promoters, and a polylinker region containing several restriction sites for insertion of foreign DNA. Plasmids typically used for transformation of *E. coli* include pBR322, pUC18, pUC19, pUC118, pUC119, and Bluescript M13, all of which are described in sections 1.12-1.20 of Sambrook et al., *supra*. However, many other suitable vectors are available as well. These vectors contain genes coding for

ampicillin and/or tetracycline resistance which enables cells transformed with these vectors to grow in the presence of these antibiotics.

The promoters most commonly used in prokaryotic vectors include the β-lactamase (penicillinase) and lactose promoter systems (Chang et al. *Nature* 375:615 [1978]; Itakura et al., *Science* 198:1056 [1977]; Goeddel et al., *Nature* 281:544 [1979]) and a tryptophan (trp) promoter system (Goeddel et al., *Nucl. Acids Res.* 8:4057 [1980]; EPO Appl. Publ. No. 36,776), and the alkaline phosphatase systems. While these are the most commonly used, other microbial promoters have been utilized, and details concerning their nucleotide sequences have been published, enabling a skilled worker to ligate them functionally into plasmid vectors (see Siebenlist et al., *Cell* 20:269 [1980]).

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Many eukaryotic proteins normally secreted from the cell contain an endogenous secretion signal sequence as part of the amino acid sequence. Thus, proteins normally found in the cytoplasm can be targeted for secretion by linking a signal sequence to the protein. This is readily accomplished by ligating DNA encoding a signal sequence to the 5' end of the DNA encoding the protein and then expressing this fusion protein in an appropriate host cell. The DNA encoding the signal sequence may be obtained as a restriction fragment from any gene encoding a protein with a signal sequence. Thus, prokaryotic, yeast, and eukaryotic signal sequences may be used herein, depending on the type of host cell utilized to practice the invention. The DNA and amino acid sequence encoding the signal sequence portion of several eukaryotic genes including, for example, human growth hormone, proinsulin, and proalbumin are known (see Stryer, Biochemistry W.H. Freeman and Company, New York, NY, p. 769 [1988]), and can be used as signal sequences in appropriate eukaryotic host cells. Yeast signal sequences, as for example acid phosphatase (Arima et al., Nuc. Acids Res. 11:1657 [1983]), α-factor, alkaline phosphatase and invertase may be used to direct secretion from yeast host cells. Prokaryotic signal sequences from genes encoding, for example, LamB or OmpF (Wong et al., Gene 68:193 [1988]), MalE, PhoA, or beta-lactamase, as well as other genes, may be used to target proteins from prokaryotic cells into the culture medium.

Trafficking sequences from plants, animals and microbes can be employed in the practice of the invention to direct the monoterpene synthase proteins of the present invention to the cytoplasm, endoplasmic reticulum, mitochondria or other cellular components, or to target the protein for export to the medium. These considerations apply to the overexpression of (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene

synthase and myrcene synthase, and to direction of expression within cells or intact organisms to permit gene product function in any desired location.

The construction of suitable vectors containing DNA encoding replication sequences, regulatory sequences, phenotypic selection genes and the monoterpene synthase DNA of interest are prepared using standard recombinant DNA procedures. Isolated plasmids and DNA fragments are cleaved, tailored, and ligated together in a specific order to generate the desired vectors, as is well known in the art (see, for example, Maniatis, *supra*, and Sambrook et al., *supra*).

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As discussed above, (-)-limonene synthase, (-)-pinene synthase and myrcene synthase variants are preferably produced by means of mutation(s) that are generated using the method of site-specific mutagenesis. This method requires the synthesis and use of specific oligonucleotides that encode both the sequence of the desired mutation and a sufficient number of adjacent nucleotides to allow the oligonucleotide to stably hybridize to the DNA template.

The foregoing may be more fully understood in connection with the following representative examples, in which "Plasmids" are designated by a lower case p followed by an alphanumeric designation. The starting plasmids used in this invention are either commercially available, publicly available on an unrestricted basis, or can be constructed from such available plasmids using published procedures. In addition, other equivalent plasmids are known in the art and will be apparent to the ordinary artisan.

"Digestion", "cutting" or "cleaving" of DNA refers to catalytic cleavage of the DNA with an enzyme that acts only at particular locations in the DNA. These enzymes are called restriction endonucleases, and the site along the DNA sequence where each enzyme cleaves is called a restriction site. The restriction enzymes used in this invention are commercially available and are used according to the instructions supplied by the manufacturers. (See also sections 1.60-1.61 and sections 3.38-3.39 of Sambrook et al., *supra*.)

"Recovery" or "isolation" of a given fragment of DNA from a restriction digest means separation of the resulting DNA fragment on a polyacrylamide or an agarose gel by electrophoresis, identification of the fragment of interest by comparison of its mobility versus that of marker DNA fragments of known molecular weight, removal of the gel section containing the desired fragment, and separation of the gel from DNA. This procedure is known generally. For example, see Lawn et al.

(Nucleic Acids Res. 9:6103-6114 [1982]), and Goeddel et al. (Nucleic Acids Res., supra).

The following examples merely illustrate the best mode now contemplated for practicing the invention, but should not be construed to limit the invention. All literature citations herein are expressly incorporated by reference.

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EXAMPLE 1

PCR-Based Generation of Probes for Cloning Monoterpene Synthases From Grand fir (Abies grandis)

Substrates, Reagents and cDNA Library – [1-3H]Geranyl diphosphate (250 Ci/mol) (Croteau, R., Alonso, W.R., Koepp, A.E., and Johnson, M.A. (1994) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 309:184-192), [1-3H]farnesyl diphosphate (125 Ci/mol) (Dehal, S.S., and Croteau, R. (1988) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 261:346-356) and [1-3H]geranylgeranyl diphosphate (120 Ci/mol) (LaFever, R.E., Stofer Vogel, B., and Croteau, R. (1994) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 313:139-149) were prepared as described previously. Terpenoid standards were from our own collection. All other biochemicals and reagents were purchased from Sigma Chemical Co. or Aldrich Chemical Co., unless otherwise noted. Construction of the λZAP II cDNA library, using mRNA isolated from wounded Grand fir sapling stems, was described previously (Stofer Vogel, B., Wildung, M.R., Vogel, G., and Croteau, R. (1996) J. Biol. Chem. 271:23262-23268).

PCR-Based Probe Generation - Based on comparison of sequences of limonene synthase from spearmint (Colby, S.M., Alonso, W.R., Katahira, E.J., McGarvey, D.J., and Croteau, R. (1993)J. Biol. Chem. 268:23016-23024), 5-epi-aristolochene synthase from tobacco (Facchini, P.J., and Chappell, J. (1992) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:11088-11092), and casbene synthase from castor bean (Mau, C.J.D., and West, C.A. (1994) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 91:8497-8501), four conserved regions were identified for which a set of consensus degenerate primers were synthesized: Primer A (SEQ ID NO:7); Primer B (SEQ ID NO:8); Primer C (SEQ ID NO:9); Primer D (SEQ ID NO:10). Primers A (SEQ ID NO:7), B (SEQ ID NO:8) and C (SEQ ID NO:9) have been described previously (Steele, C., Lewinsohn, E. and Croteau, R., Proc. Nat'l. Acad. Sci. USA, 92: 4164-4168 (1995)); primer D (SEQ ID NO:10) was designed based on the conserved amino acid sequence motif $DD(T/I)(I/Y/F)D(\Lambda/V)Y(\Lambda/G)(SEQ\ ID$ NO:25) of the above noted terpene synthases (Colby, S.M., Alonso, W.R., Katahira,

Facchini, P.J., and Chappell, J. (1992) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **89**:11088-11092; Mau. C.J.D., and West, C.A. (1994) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **91**:8497-8501).

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Each of the sense primers, A (SEQ ID NO:7), B (SEQ ID NO:8) and D (SEQ ID NO:10), was used for PCR in combination with antisense primer C (SEQ ID NO:9) by employing a broad range of amplification conditions. PCR was performed in a total volume of 50 µl containing 20 mM Tris/HCl (tris(hydroxymethyl) aminomethane/HCl, pH 8.4), 50 mM KCl, 5 mM MgCl $_2$, 200 μ M of each dNTP, 1-5 μM of each primer, 2.5 units of Taq polymerase (BRL) and 5 μl of purified Grand fir stem cDNA library phage as template (1.5 x 10 9 pfu/ml). Analysis of the PCR reaction products by agarose gel electrophoresis (Sambrock, J., Fritsch, E.F., and Maniatis, T. (1989) Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, 2nd Ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY) revealed that only the combination of primers C and D generated a specific PCR product of approximately 110 bps (base pairs). This PCR product was gel purified, ligated into pT7Blue (Novagen), and transformed into E. coli XL1-Blue cells. Plasmid DNA was prepared from 41 individual transformants and the inserts were sequenced (DyeDeoxy Terminator Cycle Sequencing, Applied Biosystems). Four different insert sequences were identified, and were designated as probes 1 (SEQ ID NO:11), 2 (SEQ ID NO:12), 4 (SEQ ID NO:13) and 5 (SEQ ID NO:14).

Subsequent isolation of four new cDNA species (*AG1.28* (SEQ ID NO:15); *AG2.2* (SEQ ID NO:1); *AG4.30* (SEQ ID NO:17) and *AG5.9* (SEQ ID NO:19)), encoding terpene synthases from Grand fir corresponding to probes 1 (SEQ ID NO:11), 2 (SEQ ID NO:12), 4 (SEQ ID NO:13) and 5 (SEQ ID NO:14), respectively, allowed the identification of three additional conserved sequence elements which were used to design a set of three new PCR primers: Primer E (5'-GGI GA(A/G) A(A/C)(A/G) (A/G)TI ATG GA(A/G) GA(A/G) GC-3')(SEQ ID NO:21); Primer F (5'-GA(A/G) (C/T)TI CA(G/A) (C/T)TI (A/C/T)(C/G/T)I (A/C)GI TGG TGG-3')(SEQ ID NO:22) and Primer G (5'-CCA (A/G)TT IA(A/G) ICC (C/T)TT IAC (A/G)TC-3')(SEQ ID NO:23).

Degenerate primer E (SEQ ID NO:21) was designed to conserved element GE(K/T)(V/I)M(E/D)EA (SEQ ID NO:26) and degenerate primer F (SEQ ID NO:22) was designed to conserved element Q(F/Y/D)(I/L)(T/L/R)RWW (SEQ ID NO:27) by comparing the sequences of five cloned terpene synthases from Grand fir: a monoterpene synthase corresponding to probe 2 (SEQ ID NO:12), two sesquiterpene synthases corresponding to probe 4 (SEQ ID NO:13) and probe 5 (SEQ ID NO:14),

respectively, a previously described diterpene synthase (Stofer Vogel, B., Wildung, M.R., Vogel, G., and Croteau, R. (1996) *J. Biol. Chem.* **271**:23262-23268), and a truncated terpene synthase corresponding to probe 1 (SEQ ID NO:11). Degenerate primer G (SEQ ID NO:23) was designed according to the amino acid sequence DVIKG(F/L)NW (SEQ ID NO:28) obtained from a peptide generated by trypsin digestion of purified (-)-pinene synthase from Grand fir. Primers E (SEQ ID NO:21) and F (SEQ ID NO:22) were independently used for PCR amplification in combination with primer G (SEQ ID NO:23), with Grand fir stem cDNA library as template. The combination of primers E (SEQ ID NO:21) and G (SEQ ID NO:23) yielded a specific PCR product of approximately 1020 bps. This PCR product was ligated into pT7Blue and transformed into *E. coli* XL1-Blue. Plasmid DNA was prepared from 20 individual transformants and inserts were sequenced from both ends. The sequence of this 1022 bp insert was identical for all 20 plasmids and was designated as probe 3 (SEQ ID NO:24).

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EXAMPLE 2

Screening a Wounded Grand fir Stem cDNA Library

For library screening, 100 ng of each probe was amplified by PCR, gel purified, randomly labeled with $[\alpha^{-32}P]dATP$ (Feinberg, A.P., and Vogelstein, B. (1984) *Anal. Biochem.* **137**:266-267), and used individually to screen replica filters of 10^5 plaques of the wound-induced Grand fir stem cDNA library plated on *E. coli* LE392. Hybridization with probes 1 (SEQ ID NO:11), 2 (SEQ ID NO:12), 4 (SEQ ID NO:13) and 5 (SEQ ID NO:14) was performed for 14 h at 65 °C in 3 x SSPE and 0.1% SDS. Filters were washed three times for 10 min at 55 °C in 3 x SSPE with 0.1% SDS and exposed for 12 h to Kodak XAR film at -70 °C. All of the λ ZAPII clones yielding positive signals were purified through a second round of hybridization (probe 1 (SEQ ID NO:11) gave 25 positives, probe 2 (SEQ ID NO:12) gave 16 positives, probe 4 (SEQ ID NO:13) gave 49 positives and probe 5 (SEQ ID NO:14) gave 12 positives).

Hybridization with probe 3 (SEQ ID NO:24) was performed as before, but the filters were washed three times for 10 min at 65 °C in 3 x SSPE and 0.1% SDS before exposure. Approximately 400 λZAPII clones yielded strong positive signals, and 34 of these were purified through a second round of hybridization at 65°C. Approximately 400 additional clones yielded weak positive signals with probe 3 (SEQ ID NO:24), and 18 of these were purified through a second round of hybridization for 20 h at 45 °C. Purified λZAP II clones isolated using all five

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probes were *in vivo* excised as Bluescript II SK(-) phagemids and transformed into *E. coli* XLOLR according to the manufacturer's instructions (Stratagene). The size of each cDNA insert was determined by PCR using T3 (SEQ ID NO:29) and T7 (SEQ ID NO:30) promoter primers and selected inserts (>1.5 kb) were partially sequenced from both ends.

EXAMPLE 3

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Grand fir Monoterpene Synthase cDNA Expression in E. coli and Enzyme Assays

Except for cDNA clones AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3) and AG3.48 (SEQ ID NO:31), all of the partially sequenced inserts were either truncated at the 5'-end, or 10 were out of frame, or bore premature stop codons upstream of the presumptive methionine start codon. For the purpose of functional expression, a 2023 bp insert fragment, extending from nucleotides 75 to 2097 of the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, and a 1911 bp insert fragment, extending from nucleotide 1 to nucleotide 1910 of the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3, were subcloned in frame into pGEX 15 A 2016 bp fragment extending from nucleotide 73 to vectors (Pharmacia). nucleotide 2088 of the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 was subcloned in frame into the pSBETa vector (Schenk, P.M., Baumann, S., Mattes, R., and Steinbiss, H.-H. (1995) Biotechniques 19, 196-200). To introduce suitable restriction sites for subcloning, fragments were amplified by PCR using primer combinations 2.2-BamHI 20 (5'-CAA AGG GAT CCA GAA TGG CTC TGG-3')(SEQ ID NO:33) and 2.2-NotI (5'-AGT AAG CGG CCG CTT TTT AAT CAT ACC CAC-3')(SEQ ID NO:34) with pAG2.2 insert (SEQ ID NO:1) as template, 3.18-EcoRI (5'-CTG CAG GAA TTC GGC ACG AGC-3')(SEQ ID NO:35) and 3.18-SmaI (5'-CAT AGC CCC GGG CAT AGA TTT GAG CTG-3')(SEQ ID NO:36) with pAG3.18 insert (SEQ ID NO:3) as 25 template, and 10-NdeI (5-GGC AGG AAC ATA TGG CTC TCC TTT CTA TCG-3')(SEQ ID NO:37) and 10-BamHI (5'-TCT AGA ACT AGT GGATCC CCC GGG CTG CAG-3')(SEQ ID NO:38) with pAG10 insert (SEQ ID NO:5) as template.

PCR reactions were performed in volumes of 50 μl containing 20 mM Tris/HCl (pl1 8.8), 10 mM KCl, 10 mM (NII₄)₂SO₄, 2 mM MgSO₄, 0.1% Triton X-100, 5 μg bovine serum albumin (BSA), 200 μM of each dNTP, 0.1 μM of each primer, 2.5 units of recombinant *Pfu* polymerase (Stratagene) and 100 ng plasmid DNA with the following program: denaturation at 94 °C, 1 min; annealing at 60 °C, 1 min; extension at 72 °C, 3.5 min; 35 cycles with final extension at 72 °C, 5 min. The PCR products were purified by agarose gel electrophoresis and used as

template for a secondary PCR amplification with the identical conditions in total volumes of 250 µl each. Products from this secondary amplification were digested with the above indicated restriction enzymes, purified by ultrafiltration and then ligated, respectively, into *BamHI/NotI*-digested pGEX-4T-2 to yield plasmid pGAG2.2, into *EcoRI/SmaI*-digested pGEX-4T-3 to yield plasmid pGAG3.18, and into *NdeI/BamHI*-digested pSBETa to yield plasmid pSBAG10; these plasmids were then transformed into *E. coli* XL1-Blue or *E. coli* BL21(DE3).

expression, bacterial strains E. coli XLOLR/pAG3.18, E. coli XLOLR/pAG3.48, E. coli XL1-Blue/pGAG2.2, E. coli XL1-Blue/pGAG3.18, and E. coli BL21(DE3)/pSBAG10 were grown to $A_{600} = 0.5$ at 37 °C in 5 ml of LB medium (Sambrock, J., Fritsch, E. F., and Maniatis, T. (1989) Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, 2d Ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY) supplemented with 100 µg ampicillin/ml or 30 µg kanamycin/ml as determined by the vector. Cultures were then induced by addition of 1 mM isopropyl-1-thio-β-D-galactopyranoside and grown for another 12 h at 20 °C. Cells were harvested by centrifugation (2000 x g, 10 min) and resuspended in either 1 ml monoterpene synthase assay buffer [50 mM Tris/HCl (pH 7.5), 500 mM KCl, 1 mM MnCl₂, 5 mM dithiothreitol, 0.05% (w/v) NaHSO₃ and 10% (v/v) glycerol], 1 ml sesquiterpene synthase assay buffer [10 mM dibasic potassium phosphate, 1.8 mM monobasic potassium phosphate (pH 7.3), 140 mM NaCl, 10 mM MgCl₂, 5 mM dithiothreitol, 0.05% (w/v) NaHSO3 and 10% (v/v) glycerol], or 1 ml diterpene synthase assay buffer [30 mM Hepes (N-2-hydroxyethylpiperazine-N'-2ethanesulfonic acid, pH 7.2), 7.5 mM MgCl₂, 5 mM dithiothreitol, 10 µM MnCl₂, 0.05% (w/v) NaHSO₃ and 10% (v/v) glycerol].

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Cells were disrupted by sonication (Braun-Sonic 2000 with microprobe at maximum power for 15 seconds at 0-4°C), the homogenates were cleared by centrifugation (18,000 x g, 10 min), and 1 ml of the resulting supernatant was assayed for monoterpene synthase activity with 2.5 μM of [1-³H]geranyl diphosphate, for sesquiterpene synthase activity with 3.5 μM [1-³H]farnesyl diphosphate, or for diterpene synthase activity with 5 μM [1-³H]geranylgeranyl diphosphate following standard protocols (Croteau, R., and Cane, D.E. (1985) Methods Enzymol. 110:383-405; LaFever, R.E., Stofer Vogel, B., and Croteau, R. (1994) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 313:139-149; Dehal, S.S., and Croteau, R. (1988) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 261:346-356). In the case of the monoterpene synthase and sesquiterpene synthase assays, the incubation mixture was overlaid with 1 ml pentane

to trap volatile products. In all cases, after incubation at 31°C for 2 h, the reaction mixture was extracted with pentane (3 x 1 ml) and the combined extract was passed through a 1.5 ml column of anhydrous $MgSO_4$ and silica gel (Mallinckrodt 60 Å) to provide the terpene hydrocarbon fraction free of oxygenated metabolites. The columns were subsequently eluted with 3 x 1 ml of ether to collect any oxygenated products, and an aliquot of each fraction was taken for liquid scintillation counting to determine conversion rate.

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Product Identification – To obtain sufficient product for analysis by radio-GLC (gas liquid chromatography), chiral capillary GLC and GLC-MS (mass spectrum/spectrometry), preparative-scale enzyme incubations were carried out. Thus, the enzyme was prepared from 50 ml of cultured bacterial cells by extraction with 3 ml of assay buffer as above, and the extracts were incubated with excess substrate overnight at 31°C. The hydrocarbon fraction was isolated by elution through MgSO₄-silica gel as before, and the pentane eluate was concentrated for evaluation by capillary radio-GLC as described (Croteau, R., and Satterwhite, D.M. (1990) *J. Chromatogr.* 500:349-354), by chiral column capillary GLC (Lewinsohn, E., Savage, T.J., Gijzen, M., and Croteau, R. (1993) *Phytochem. Anal.* 4:220-225), and by combined GLC-MS [Hewlett-Packard 6890 GC-MSD with cool (40°C) oncolumn injection, detection via electron impact ionization (70 eV), He carrier at 0.7 psi., column: 0.25 mm i.d. x 30 m fused silica with 0.25 μm film of 5MS (Hewlett-Packard) programmed from 35°C (5 min hold) to 230°C at 5°C/min].

EXAMPLE 4

Sequence Analysis

Inserts of all recombinant bluescript plasmids and pGEX plasmids were completely sequenced on both strands via primer walking and nested deletions (Sambrock, J., Fritsch, E.F., and Maniatis, T. (1989) *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, 2d Ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY) using the DyeDeoxy Terminator Cycle Sequencing method (Applied Biosystems). Sequence analysis was done using the Wisconsin Package Version 9.0, Genetics Computer Group (GCG), Madison, WI.

EXAMPLE 5

RNA Extraction and Northern Blotting

Grand fir sapling stem tissue was harvested prior to wounding or two days after wounding by a standard procedure (Gijzen, M., Lewinsohn, E., and Croteau, R. (1991) *Arch. Biochem. Biophys.* **289**:267-273). Total RNA was isolated (Lewinsohn,

E., Steele, C.L., and Croteau, R. (1994) Plant Mol. Biol. Rep. 12:20-25) and 20 μg of RNA per gel lane was separated under denaturing conditions (Sambrock, J., Fritsch, E.F., and Maniatis, T. (1989) Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, 2d Ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY) and transferred to nitrocellulose membranes (Schleicher and Schuell) according to the manufacturer's protocol. To prepare hybridization probes, cDNA fragments of 1.4-1.5 kb were amplified by PCR from AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1) with primer JB29 (5'-CTA CCA TTC CAA TAT CTG-3')(SEQ ID NO:39) and primer 2-8 (5'-GTT GGA TCT TAG AAG TTC CC-3')(SEQ ID NO:40), from AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3) with primer 3-9 (5'-TTT CCA TTC CAA CCT CTG GG-3')(SEQ ID NO:41) and primer 3-11 (5'-CGT AAT GGA AAG CTC TGG CG-3')(SEQ ID NO:42), and from AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5) with primer 7-1 (5'-CCT TAC ACG CCT TTG GAT GG-3')(SEQ ID NO:43) and primer 7-3 (5'-TCT GTT GAT CCA GGA TGG TC-3')(SEQ ID NO:44). The probes were randomly labeled with $[\alpha^{-32}P]dATP$ (Feinberg, A.P., and Vogelstein, B. (1984) Anal Biochem. 137:266-267). Blots were hybridized for 24 h at 55°C in 3 x SSPE and 0.1% SDS, washed at 55°C in 1 x SSPE and 0.1%, SDS and subjected to autoradiography as described above at -80°C for 24 h.

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EXAMPLE 6

Cloning and Characterization of Clones AG1.28 (SEQ ID NO:15), AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1), AG4.30 (SEQ ID NO:17) and AG 5.9 (SEQ ID NO:19)

Similarity-Based Cloning of Grand fir Terpene Synthases - Grand fir has been developed as a model system for the study of induced oleoresin production in conifers in response to wounding and insect attack (Johnson, M.A., and Croteau, R. (1987) in Ecology and Metabolism of Plant Lipids (Fuller, G., and Nes, W.D., eds) pp. 76-91, American Chemical Society Symposium Series 325, Washington, 25 DC; Gijzen, M., Lewinsohn, E., Savage, T.J., and Croteau, R.B. (1993) in Bioactive Volatile Compounds from Plants (Teranishi, R., Buttery, R.G., and Sugisawa, H., eds) pp. 8-22, American Chemical Society Symposium Series 525, Washington, DC; Raffa, K. F., and Berryman, A.A. (1982) Can. Entomol. 114:797-810; Steele, C., Lewinsohn, E., and Croteau, R. (1995) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 92:4164-30 4168; Lewinsohn, E., Gijzen, M., and Croteau, R. (1992) in Regulation of Isopentenoid Metabolism (Nes, W.D., Parish, E.J., and Trzaskos, J.M., eds) pp. 8-17, American Chemical Society Symposium Series 497, Washington, DC). chemistry and biosynthesis of the oleoresin monoterpenes, sesquiterpenes and diterpenes have been well defined (Lewinsohn, E., Savage, T.J., Gijzen, M., and

Croteau, R. (1993) Phytochem. Anal. 4:220-225; Lewinsohn, E., Gijzen, M., and Croteau, R. (1991) Plant Physiol. 96:44-49; Funk, C., Lewinsohn, E., Stofer Vogel, B., Steele C., and Croteau, R. (1994) Plant Physiol. 106:999-1005; Gijzen, M., Lewinsohn, E., and Croteau, R. (1991) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 289:267-273; 5 Lewinsohn, E., Gijzen, M., and Croteau, R. (1992) Arch. Biophys. 293:167-173; LaFever, R.E., Stofer Vogel, B., and Croteau, R. (1994) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 313:139-149; Funk, C., and Croteau, R. (1994) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 308:258-266); however, structural analysis of the responsible terpene synthases as well as studies on the regulation of oleoresinosis require the isolation of cDNA species encoding the terpene synthases. Protein purification from conifers, as 10 the basis for cDNA isolation, has been of limited success (Stofer Vogel, B., Wildung, M.R., Vogel, G., and Croteau, R. (1996) J. Biol. Chem. 271:23262-23268) and thus far has not permitted cloning of any of the monoterpene synthases from these species (Steele, C., Lewinsohn, E., and Croteau, R. (1995) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 15 USA 92:4164-4168).

As a possible alternative to protein-based cloning of terpene synthases, a homology-based PCR strategy was proposed (Steele, C., Lewinsohn, E., and Croteau, R. (1995) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 92:4164-4168) that was founded upon the three terpene synthases of plant origin then available, a monoterpene synthase, (-)-4S-limonene synthase, from spearmint (Mentha spicata, Lamiaceae) (Colby, S.M., Alonso, W.R., Katahira, E.J., McGarvey, D.J., and Croteau, R. (1993) J. Biol. Chem. 268:23016-23024), a sesquiterpene synthase, 5-epi-aristolochene synthase, from tobacco (Nicotiana tabacum, Solanaceae) (Facchini, P.J., and Chappell, J. (1992) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:11088-11092), and a diterpene synthase, casbene synthase, from castor bean (Ricinus communis, Euphorbiaceae) (Mau, C.J.D., and West, C.A. (1994) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 91:8497-8501). Despite the taxonomic distances between these three angiosperm species and the differences in substrate utilized, reaction mechanism and product type of the three enzymes, a comparison of the deduced amino acid sequences identified several conserved regions that appeared to be useful for the design of degenerate PCR primers (see Example 1). Using cDNA from a wound-induced Grand fir stem library as template, PCR primers C (SEQ ID NO:9) and D (SEQ ID NO:10) amplified products corresponding to four distinct sequence groups, all of which showed significant similarity to sequences of cloned terpene synthases of plant origin. The four different inserts were designated as probes 1 (SEQ ID NO:11), 2 (SEQ ID NO:12), 4

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(SEQ ID NO:13) and 5 (SEQ ID NO:14), and were employed for isolation of the corresponding cDNA clones by plaque hybridization.

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Screening of 10⁵ cDNA phage plaques from the wounded Grand fir stem library, with each of the four probes, yielded a four-fold difference in the number of positives, most likely reflecting different levels of expression of the corresponding genes. Size selected inserts (>1.5 kb) of purified and in vivo excised clones were partially sequenced from both ends, and were shown to segregate into four distinct groups corresponding to the four hybridization probes. Since all cDNAs corresponding to probes 1 (SEQ ID NO:11), 4 (SEQ ID NO:13) and 5 (SEQ ID NO:14) were truncated at their 5'-ends, only inserts of the largest representatives of each group, clone AG1.28 (SEQ ID NO:15), clone AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1) (apparently full length), clone AG4.30 (SEQ ID NO:17) and clone AG5.9 (SEQ ID NO:19), were completely sequenced. Clone AG1.28 (SEQ ID NO:15)(2424 bps) includes an open reading frame (ORF) of 2350 nucleotides (nts) encoding 782 amino acids (SEQ ID NO:16); clone AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1)(2196 bps), includes an ORF of 1881 nts encoding 627 amino acids (SEQ ID NO:2); clone AG4.30 (SEQ ID NO:17)(1967 bps) includes an ORF of 1731 nts encoding 577 amino acids (SEQ ID NO:18) and clone AG5.9 (SEQ ID NO:19)(1416 bps) includes an ORF of 1194 nucleotides encoding 398 amino acids (SEQ ID NO:20).

cDNA clones AG1.28 (SEQ ID NO:15), AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1), AG4.30 (SEQ ID NO:17) and AG5.9 (SEQ ID NO:19) were compared pairwise with each other and with other cloned plant terpene synthases. Truncated clone AG1.28 (SEQ ID NO:15) resembled most closely in size and sequence (72% similarity, 49% identity) a diterpene cyclase, abietadiene synthase, from Grand fir (Stofer Vogel, B., Wildung, M.R., Vogel, G., and Croteau, R. (1996) J. Biol. Chem. 271:23262-23268). Clones AG4.30 (SEQ ID NO:17) and AG5.9 (SEQ ID NO:19) share approximately 80% similarity (60% identity) at the amino acid level, and are almost equally distant from both clone AG1.28 (SEQ ID NO:15) and full-length clone AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1)(range of 65-70% similarity and 45-47% identity); the amino acid sequence similarity between AG1.28 (SEQ ID NO:15) and AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1) is 65% (41% identity). Considering the high level of homology between AG4.30 (SEQ ID NO:17) and AG5.9 (SEQ ID NO:15), AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1), AG4.30 (SEQ ID NO:17) and AG5.9 (SEQ ID NO:15), AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1), AG4.30 (SEQ ID NO:17) and AG5.9 (SEQ ID NO:15), AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1), AG4.30 (SEQ ID NO:17) and AG5.9 (SEQ ID NO:19), represent the three major subfamilies

PCT/US98/14528 WO 99/02030

of Grand fir terpene synthase genes encoding monoterpene synthases, sesquiterpene synthases and diterpene synthases.

Identification of cDNA Clone AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1) as Myrcene Synthase - The pAG2.2 insert (SEQ ID NO:1) appeared to be a full-length clone encoding a protein of molecular weight 72,478 with a calculated pl at 6.5. The size of the 5 translated protein encoded by AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1) (627 residues)(SEQ ID NO:2) is in the range of the monoterpene synthase preproteins for limonene synthase from spearmint (Colby, S.M., Alonso, W.R., Katahira, E.J., McGarvey, D.J., and Croteau, R. (1993) J. Biol. Chem. 268:23016-23024) and Perilla frutescens (Yuba, A., Yazaki, K., Tabata, M., Honda, G., and Croteau, R. (1996) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 332:280-10 287), but is about 240 amino acids shorter than the two gymnosperm diterpene synthase preproteins for abietadiene synthase (Stofer Vogel, B., Wildung, M.R., Vogel, G., and Croteau, R. (1996) J. Biol. Chem. 271:23262-23268) and taxadiene synthase (Wildung, M.R., and Croteau, R. (1996) J. Biol. Chem. 271:9201-9204). Monoterpene and diterpene biosynthesis are compartmentalized in plastids whereas 15 sesquiterpene biosynthesis is cytosolic (reviewed in Kleinig, H. (1989) Annu. Rev. Plant Physiol. Plant Mol. Biol. 40:39-53; Gershenzon, J., and Croteau, R. (1993) in Lipid Metabolism in Plants (Moore, T.S. Jr., ed) pp. 339-388, CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL; McGarvey, D.J., and Croteau, R. (1995) Plant Cell 7, 1015-1026); thus, monoterpene and diterpene synthases are encoded as preproteins bearing an amino-20 terminal transit peptide for import of these nuclear gene products into plastids where they are proteolytically processed to the mature forms (Keegstra, K., Olsen, J.J., and Theg, S.M. (1989) Annu. Rev. Plant Physiol. Plant Mol. Biol. 40:471-501; von Heijne, G., Stepphuhn, J., and Herrmann (1989) Eur. J. Biochem. 180:535-545). Both the size of the deduced protein and the presence of an N-terminal domain (of 60 25 to 70 amino acids) with features characteristic of a targeting sequence [rich in serine residues (16-18%) and low in acidic residues (four Asp or Glu) (Keegstra, K., Olsen, J.J., and Theg, S.M. (1989) Annu. Rev. Plant Physiol. Plant Mol. Biol. 40:471-501; von Heijne, G., Stepphuhn, J., and Herrmann (1989) Eur. J. Biochem. 180:535-545)] suggest that AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1) encodes a monoterpene synthase rather than a 30 sesquiterpene synthase or a diterpene synthase.

Since pAG2.2 contained the terpene synthase insert in reversed orientation, the ORF was subcloned in frame with glutathione S-transferase, for ultimate ease of purification (Bohlmann, J., DeLuca, V., Eilert, U., and Martin, W. (1995) Plant J. 7:491-501; Bohlmann, J., Lins, T., Martin, W., and Eilert, U. (1996) Plant Physiol.

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111:507-514), into pGEX-4T-2, yielding plasmid pGAG2.2. The recombinant fusion protein was expressed in E. coli strain XL1-Blue/pGAG2.2, then extracted and assayed for monoterpene synthase, sesquiterpene synthase and diterpene synthase activity using tritium labeled geranyl diphosphate, farnesyl diphosphate and geranyl geranyl diphosphate as the respective substrate. Enzymatic production of a terpene olefin was observed only with geranyl diphosphate as substrate, and the only product was shown to be myrcene by radio-GLC and GLC-MS comparison to an authentic standard (FIGURE 3). Bacteria transformed with pGEX vector containing the AG2.2 insert (SEQ ID NO:1) in antisense orientation did not afford detectable myrcene synthase activity when induced, and the protein isolated and assayed as above. A myrcene synthase cDNA has not been obtained previously from any source, although myrcene is a minor co-product (2%) of the native and recombinant limonene synthase from spearmint (Rajaonarivony, J.I.M., Gershenzon, J., and Croteau, R. (1992) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 296:49-57; Colby, S.M., Alonso, W.R., Katahira, E.J., McGarvey, D.J., and Croteau, R. (1993) J. Biol. Chem. 268:23016-23024) and of several enzymes from sage (Croteau, R., and Satterwhite, D.M. (1989) J. Biol. Chem. 264:15309-15315). cDNA cloning and functional expression of myrcene synthase, which is one of several wound-inducible monoterpene synthase activities of Grand fir (Gijzen, M., Lewinsohn, E., and Croteau, R. (1991) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 289:267-273), demonstrates that this acyclic monoterpene is formed by a distinct enzyme and is not a co-product of another synthase.

EXAMPLE 7

Cloning and Characterization of Clones AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3) Encoding (-)-Pinene Synthase and cDNA Clone AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5) Encoding

25 (-)-Limonene Synthase

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Identification of cDNA Clone AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3) as (-)-Pinene Synthase and cDNA Clone AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5) as (-)-Limonene Synthase – Alignment of the four new terpene synthase cDNA sequences (AG1.28 (SEQ ID NO:15), AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1), AG4.30 (SEQ ID NO:17) and AG.5.9 (SEQ ID NO:19)), and that for abietadiene synthase (Stofer Vogel, B., Wildung, M.R., Vogel, G., and Croteau, R. (1996) J. Biol. Chem. 271:23262-23268), allowed the identification of several conserved sequence motifs among this enzyme family from Grand fir, which provided the foundation for an extended similarity-based cloning approach. Two new sense primers E (SEQ ID NO:21) and F (SEQ ID NO:22) were designed according to conserved sequence elements, whereas a degenerate antisense

primer G (SEQ ID NO:23) was designed based upon very limited amino acid sequence information from pinene synthase (see Example 1). Only the combination of primers E (SEQ ID NO:21) and G (SEQ ID NO:23) amplified a specific product of 533 bps, which was designated as probe 3 (SEQ ID NO:24).

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Hybridization of 10⁵ Grand fir λZAP II cDNA clones with probe 3 (SEQ ID NO:24) yielded two types of signals comprised of about 400 strongly positive clones and an equal number of weak positives, indicating that the probe recognized more than one type of cDNA. Thirty-four of the former clones and 18 of the latter were purified, the inserts were selected by size (2.0-2.5 kb), and the in vivo excised clones were partially sequenced from both ends. Those clones which afforded weak hybridization signals were shown to contain inserts that were either identical to myrcene synthase clone AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1) or exhibited no significant sequence similarity to terpene synthases. Clone AG3.48 (SEQ ID NO:31) contained the myrcene synthase ORF in the correct orientation and in frame for expression from the Bluescript plasmid vector. This cDNA was functionally expressed in E. coli and the resulting enzyme was shown to accept only geranyl diphosphate as the prenyl diphosphate substrate and to produce myrcene as the exclusive reaction product. This finding with AG3.48 (SEQ ID NO:31) confirms that expression of AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1) as the glutathione S-transferase fusion protein from pGAG2.2 does not influence substrate utilization or product outcome of the myrcene synthase.

Clones which gave strong hybridization signals segregated into distinct sequence groups represented by clone AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3)(2018 bp insert with ORF of 1884 nt; encoded protein of 628 residues at 71,505 Da and pI of 5.5) and AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5)(2089 bp insert with ORF of 1911 nt; encoded protein of 637 residues at 73,477 Da and pl of 6.4). AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3) and AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5) form a subfamily together with the myrcene synthase clone AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1) that is characterized by a minimum of 79% pairwise similarity (64% identity) at the amino acid level. Like myrcene synthase, both AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3) and AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5) encode N-terminal sequences of 60 to 70 amino acids which are rich in serine (19-22% and 11-15%, respectively) and low in acidic residues (4 and 2, respectively) characteristic of plastid transit peptides (Keegstra, K., Olsen, J.J., and Theg, S.M. (1989) Annu. Rev. Plant Physiol. Plant Mol. Biol. 40:471-501; von Heijne, G., Stepphuhn, J., and Herrmann (1989) Eur. J. Biochem. 180:535-545).

Plasmid pAG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3) contained the presumptive terpene synthase ORF in frame for direct expression from the bluescript plasmid, whereas the

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AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5) ORF was in reversed orientation. Both AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3) and AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5) were subcloned into expression vectors yielding plasmids pGAG3.18 and pSBAG10. Recombinant proteins were expressed in bacterial strain E. coli XLOLR/pAG3.18, E. coli XL1-Blue/pGAG3.18 and E. coli BL21(DE3)/pSBAG10. When extracts of the induced cells were tested for terpene synthase activity with all of the potential prenyl diphosphate substrates, only geranyl diphosphate was utilized. Extracts from E. coli BL21(DE3)/pSBAG10 converted geranyl diphosphate to limonene as the major product with lesser amounts of $\alpha\text{-pinene},\ \beta\text{-pinene}$ and $\beta\text{-phellandrene},$ as determined by radio-GLC and combined GLC-MS (FIGURE 5). Chiral phase capillary GLC on β-cyclodextrin revealed the limonene product to be the (-)-4S-enantiomer and the pinene products to be the related (-)-(1S:5S)-enantiomers. Although optically pure standards were not available for the analysis, stereochemical considerations suggest that the minor product β-phellandrene is also the mechanistically related (-)-(4S)-antipode (Gambliel, H., and Croteau, R. (1984) J. Biol. Chem. 259:740-748; Croteau, R., Satterwhite, D.M., Cane, D.E., and Chang, C.C. (1988) J. Biol. Chem. 263:10063-10071; Wagschal, K., Savage, T.J., and Croteau, R. (1991) Tetrahedron 47:5933-5944; Croteau, R., Satterwhite, D.M., Wheeler, C.J., and Felton, N.M. (1989) J. Biol. Chem. 264:2075-2080; LaFever, R.E., and Croteau, R. (1993) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 301:361-366). Similar analysis of the monoterpene products generated from geranyl diphosphate by cell-free extracts of E. coli XLOLR/pAG3.18 and E. coli XL1-Blue/pGAG3.18 demonstrated the presence of a 42:58% mixture of α -pinene and β -pinene (FIGURE 4), the same product ratio previously described for the purified, native (-)-pinene synthase from Grand fir (Lewinsohn, E., Gijzen, M., and Croteau, R. (1992) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 293:167-173). Chiral phase capillary GLC confirmed the products of the recombinant pinene synthase to be the (-)-(1S:5S)-enantiomers, as expected. No other monoterpene co-products were detected with the recombinant (-)-pinene synthase, as observed previously for the native enzyme (Lewinsohn, E., Gijzen, M., and Croteau, R. (1992) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 293:167-173).

Evidence for the formation of both α - and β -pinene by a single enzyme has been previously provided through co-purification studies, and differential inhibition and inactivation studies, as well as by isotopically sensitive branching experiments (Gambliel, H., and Croteau, R. (1984) *J. Biol. Chem.* **259**:740-748; Wagschal, K.C., Pyun, H.-J., Coates, R.M., and Croteau, R. (1994) *Arch. Biochem. Biophys.* **308**:477-

487; Wagschal, K., Savage, T.J., and Croteau, R. (1991) *Tetrahedron* 47:5933-5944; Croteau, R., Wheeler, C.J., Cane, D.E., Ebert, R., and Ha, H.-J. (1987) *Biochemistry* 26:5383-5389). The cDNA cloning of pinene synthase provides the ultimate proof that a single enzyme forms both products. The calculated molecular weight of the (-)-pinene synthase deduced from *AG3.18* (SEQ ID NO:3) is approximately 64,000 (excluding the putative transit peptide), which agrees well with the molecular weight of 63,000 established for the native enzyme from Grand fir by gel permeation chromatography and SDS-PAGE (Lewinsohn, E., Gijzen, M., and Croteau, R. (1992) *Arch. Biochem. Biophys.* 293:167-173).

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A limonene synthase cDNA has thus far been cloned only from two very closely related angiosperm species (Colby, S.M., Alonso, W.R., Katahira, E.J., McGarvey, D.J., and Croteau, R. (1993) J. Biol. Chem. 268:23016-23024; Yuba, A., Yazaki, K., Tabata, M., Honda, G., and Croteau, R. (1996) Arch Biochem. Biophys. 332:280-287), and the isolation of a pinene synthase cDNA has not been reported before. Pinene synthase has previously received considerable attention as a major defense-related monoterpene synthase in conifers (Gijzen, M., Lewinsohn, E., and Croteau, R. (1991) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 289:267-273; Lewinsohn, E., Gijzen, M., and Croteau, R. (1992) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 293:167-173). In the Grand fir cDNA library, which was synthesized from mRNA obtained from woundinduced sapling stems, clones corresponding to pinene synthase are at least ten times more abundant than clones for myrcene synthase. This finding reflects the relative proportions of the induced levels of activities of these enzymes in Grand fir saplings; pinene synthase and limonene synthase are the major monoterpene synthase activities whereas the induced level of myrcene synthase activity is relatively low (Gijzen, M., Lewinsohn, E., and Croteau, R. (1991) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 289:267-273). The cDNAs for inducible monoterpene synthases provide probes for genetic and molecular analysis of oleoresin-based defense in conifers. Northern blots (FIGURE 6) of total RNA extracted from non-wounded sapling stems and from stems two days after wounding (when enzyme activity first appears) were probed with cDNA fragments for AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1), AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3) and AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5), and thus demonstrated that increased mRNA accumulation for monoterpene synthases is responsible for this induced, defensive response in Grand The availability of cloned, defense-related monoterpene synthases presents several possible avenues for transgenic manipulation of oleoresin composition to improve tree resistance to bark beetles and other pests. For example, altering the

monoterpene content of oleoresin may chemically disguise the host and decrease insect aggregation by changing the levels of pheromone precursors or predator attractants, or lower infestation by increasing toxicity toward beetles and their pathogenic fungal associates (Johnson, M.A., and Croteau, R. (1987) in *Ecology and Metabolism of Plant Lipids* (Fuller, G., and Nes, W.D., eds) pp. 76-91, American Chemical Society Symposium Series 325, Washington, DC; Gijzen, M., Lewinsohn, E., Savage, T.J., and Croteau, R.B. (1993) in *Bioactive Volatile Compounds from Plants* (Teranishi, R., Buttery, R.G., and Sugisawa, H., eds) pp. 8-22, American Chemical Society Symposium Series 525, Washington, DC; Byers, J.A. (1995) in *Chemical Ecology of Insects 2* (Cardé, R.T., and Bell, W.J., eds) pp. 154-213, Chapman and Hall, New York).

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EXAMPLE 8

Properties of the Recombinant Monoterpene Synthases Encoded by cDNA Clones AG2.2 (SEQ ID NO:1), AG3.18 (SEQ ID NO:3) and AG10 (SEQ ID NO:5)

All three recombinant enzymes require Mn²⁺ for activity, and Mg²⁺ is essentially ineffective as the divalent metal ion cofactor. This finding confirms earlier results obtained with the native monoterpene synthases of Grand fir and lodgepole pine (Pinus contorta) (Lewinsohn, E., Gijzen, M., and Croteau, R. (1992) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 293:167-173; Savage, T.J., Hatch, M.W., and Croteau, R. 20 (1994) J. Biol. Chem. 269:4012-4020). All terpene synthases and prenyltransferases are thought to employ a divalent metal ion, usually Mg²⁺ or Mn²⁺, in the ionization steps of the reaction sequence to neutralize the negative charge of the diphosphate leaving group (Croteau, R. (1987) Chem. Rev. 87:929-954; Cane, D.E. (1992) Ciba Found. Symp. Ser. 171:163-167; Poulter, C.D., and Rilling, H.C. (1981) in 25 Biosynthesis of Isoprenoid Compounds (Porter, J.W., and Spurgeon, S.L., eds) Vol. 1, pp. 161-224, Wiley & Sons, New York), and all relevant sequences thus far obtained bear a conserved aspartate rich element (DDXXD)(SEQ ID NO:45) considered to be involved in divalent metal ion binding (Stofer Vogel, B., Wildung, M.R., Vogel, G., and Croteau, R. (1996) J. Biol. Chem. 271:23262-23268; Ashby, 30 M.N., and Edwards, P.A. (1990) J. Biol. Chem. 265:13157-13164; Chen, A., Kroon, P.A., and Poulter, D.C. (1994) Protein Sci. 3:600-607; Tarshis, L.C., Yan, M., Poulter, C.D., and Sacchettini, J.C. (1994) Biochemistry 33:10871-10877; Cane, D.E., Sohng, J.K., Lamberson, C.R., Rudnicki, S.M., Wu, Z., Lloyd, M.D., Oliver, J.S., and Hubbard, B.R. (1994) Biochemistry 33:5846-5857; Proctor, R.H., and 35

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Hohn, T.M. (1993) J. Biol. Chem. 268:4543-4548). In addition to this strict, general dependence on a divalent metal ion, the monoterpene synthases of conifers are unique in their further requirement for a monovalent cation (K^{\dagger}) , a feature that distinguishes the gymnosperm monoterpene synthases from their counterparts from angiosperm species and implies a fundamental structural and/or mechanistic difference between these two families of catalysts (Savage, T.J., Hatch, M.W., and Croteau, R. (1994) J. Biol. Chem. 269:4012-4020). All three recombinant monoterpene synthases depend upon K^{\dagger} , with maximum activity achieved at approximately 500 mM KCl. A requirement for K⁺ has been reported for a number of different types of enzymes, including those that catalyze phosphoryl cleavage or transfer reactions (Suelter, C.H. (1970) Science 168:789-794) such as Hsc70 ATPase (Wilbanks, S.M., and McKay, D.B. (1995) J. Biol. Chem. 270:2251-2257). The crystal structure of bovine Hsc70 ATPase indicates that both Mg^{2+} and K^{+} interact directly with phosphate groups of the substrate and implicates three active site aspartate residues in Mg²⁺ and K⁺ binding (Wilbanks, S.M., and McKay, D.B. (1995) J. Biol. Chem. 270:2251-2257), reminiscent of the proposed role of the conserved DDXXD (SEQ ID NO:45) motif of the terpene synthases and prenyltransferases in divalent cation binding, a function also supported by recent site directed mutagenesis (Marrero, P.F., Poulter, C.D., and Edwards, P.A. (1992) J. Biol. Chem. 267:21873-21878; Joly, A., and Edwards, P.A. (1993) J. Biol. Chem. 268: 26983-26989; Song, L., and Poulter, C.D. (1994) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 91:3044-3048; Koyama, T., Tajima, M., Sano, H., Doi, T., Koike-Takeshita, A., Obata, S., Nishino, T., and Ogura, K. (1996) Biochemistry 35:9533-9538) and by X-ray structural analysis (Tarshis, L.C., Yan, M., Poulter, C.D., and Sacchettini, J.C. Biochemistry 33:10871-10877) of farnesyl diphosphate synthase.

cDNA cloning and functional expression of the myrcene, limonene and pinene synthases from Grand fir represent the first example of the isolation of multiple synthase genes from the same species, and provide tools for evaluation of structure-function relationships in the construction of acyclic, monocyclic and bicyclic monoterpene products and for detailed comparison to catalysts from phylogenetically distant plants that carry out ostensibly identical reactions (Gambliel, H., and Croteau, R. (1984) *J. Biol. Chem.* **259**:740-748; Rajaonarivony, J.I.M., Gershenzon, J., and Croteau, R. (1992) *Arch. Biochem. Biophys.* **296**:49-57; Colby, S.M., Alonso, W.R., Katahira, E.J., McGarvey, D.J., and Croteau, R. (1993) *J. Biol. Chem.* **268**:23016-23024; Adam, K.-P., Crock, J., and Croteau, R. (1996) *Arch.*

Biochem. Biophys. 332:352-356). The recent acquisition of cDNA isolates encoding sesquiterpene synthases and diterpene synthases (Stofer Vogel, B., Wildung, M.R., Vogel, G., and Croteau, R. (1996) J. Biol. Chem. 271:23262-23268) from Grand fir should, together with the monoterpene synthases, also permit addressing the structural basis of chain-length specificity for prenyl diphosphate substrates in this family of related enzymes.

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EXAMPLE 9

Sequence Comparison of Cloned Monoterpene Synthases

Previous studies based on substrate protection from inactivation with 10 selective amino acid modifying reagents have implicated functionally important cysteine, histidine and arginine residues in a range of different monoterpene synthases (Rajaonarivony, J.I.M., Gershenzon, J., and Croteau, R. (1992) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 296:49-57; Lewinsohn, E., Gijzen, M., and Croteau, R. (1992) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 293:167-173; Savage, T.J., Hatch, M.W., and Croteau, R. (1994) J. Biol. Chem. 269:4012-4020; Rajaonarivony, J.I.M., Gershenzon, J., 15 Miyazaki, J., and Croteau, R. (1992) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 299:77-82; Savage, T.J., Ichii, H., Hume, S.D., Little, D.B., and Croteau, R. (1994) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 320:257-265). Sequence alignment of 21 terpene synthases of plant origin (Colby, S.M., Alonso, W.R., Katahira, E.J., McGarvey, D.J., and Croteau, R. (1993) J. Biol. Chem. 268:23016-23024; Stofer Vogel, B., Wildung, M.R., Vogel, G., and 20 Croteau, R. (1996) J. Biol. Chem. 271:23262-23268; Facchini, P.J., and Chappell, J. (1992) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:11088-11092; Mau, C.J.D., and West, C.A. (1994) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 91:8497-8501; Yuba, A., Yazaki, K., Tabata, M., Honda, G., and Croteau, R. (1996) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 332:280-287; Wildung, M.R., and Croteau, R. (1996) J. Biol. Chem. 271:9201-9204; Yamaguchi, S., Saito, 25 T., Abe, H., Yamane, H., Murofushi, N., and Kamiya, Y. (1996) Plant J. 10:203-213; Dudareva, N., Cseke, L., Blanc, V.M., and Pichersky, E. (1996) Plant Cell 8:1137-1148; Chen, X.-Y., Chen, Y., Heinstein, P., and Davisson, V.J. (1995) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 324:255-266; Chen, X.-Y., Wang, M., Chen, Y., Davisson, J., and Heinstein, P. (1996) J. Nat. Prod. 59:944-951; Back, K., and Chappell, J. (1995) 30 J. Biol. Chem. 270:7375-7381) reveals two absolutely conserved arginine residues, corresponding to Arg 184 and Arg 365 of pinene synthase (SEQ ID NO:4), one highly conserved cysteine residue (pinene synthase Cys⁵⁴³)(SEQ ID NO:4), and one highly conserved histidine residue (pinene synthase His 186)(SEQ ID NO:4). The DDXXD (SEQ ID NO:45) sequence motif (pinene synthase Asp³⁷⁹, Asp³⁸⁰ and Asp³⁸³) (SEQ 35

ID NO:4) is absolutely conserved in all relevant plant terpene synthases, as are several other amino acid residues corresponding to Phe¹⁹⁸, Leu²⁴⁸, Glu³²², Trp³²⁹, Trp⁴⁶⁰ and Pro⁴⁶⁷ of pinene synthase (SEQ ID NO:4).

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Amino acid sequences of the plant terpene synthases were compared with each other and with the deduced sequences of several sesquiterpene synthases cloned from microorganisms (Proctor, R.H., and Hohn, T.M. (1993) J. Biol. Chem. 268:4543-4548; Back, K., and Chappell, J. (1995) J. Biol. Chem. 270:7375-7381; Hohn, T.M., and Desjardins, A.E. (1992) Mol. Plant-Microbe Interactions 5:249-256). As with all other plant terpene synthases, no significant conservation in primary sequence exists between the monoterpene synthases from Grand fir and the terpene synthases of microbial origin, except for the DDXXD (SEQ 1D NO:45) sequence motif previously identified as a common element of all terpene synthases, and prenyltransferases which employ a related electrophilic reaction mechanism (Croteau, R., Wheeler, C.J., Cane, D.E., Ebert, R., and Ha, H.-J. (1987) Biochemistry 26:5383-5389; Chen, A., Kroon, P.A., and Poulter, D.C. (1994) Protein Sci. 3:600-607; McCaskill, D., and Croteau, R. (1997) Adv. Biochem. Engineering Biotech. 55:108-146). The evidence is presently insufficient to determine whether extant plant and microbial terpene synthases represent divergent evolution from a common ancestor, which may also have given rise to the prenyltransferases, or whether these similar catalysts evolved convergently.

EXAMPLE 10

Alteration of Monoterpene Levels and Composition in Plant Seeds

In accordance with the present invention, methods for increasing production of monoterpene compounds in a plant, particularly in plant seeds, are provided. The methods involve transforming a plant cell with a nucleic acid sequence encoding at least one gymnosperm monoterpene synthase, such as those encoded by the nucleic acid sequences set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3 and SEQ ID NO:5. This has the effect of altering monoterpene biosynthesis, thereby increasing the production of monoterpenes, as well as providing novel seed oils having desirable monoterpene compositions. In this manner, the transformed seed provides a factory for the production of modified oils. The modified oil itself may be used and/or the compounds in the oils can be isolated. Thus, the present invention allows for the production of particular monoterpenes of interest as well as speciality oils.

The nucleic acid encoding the monoterpene synthases of the present invention can be used in expression cassettes for expression in the transformed plant tissues.

To alter the monoterpene levels in a plant of interest, the plant is transformed with at least one expression cassette comprising a transcriptional initiation region linked to a nucleic acid sequence encoding a monoterpene synthase. Such an expression cassette is provided with a plurality of restriction sites for insertion of the nucleic acid sequence encoding a monoterpene synthase so that it is under the transcriptional regulation of the regulatory regions.

The transcriptional initiation sequence may be native or analogous to the host or foreign or heterologous to the host. In this regard, the term "foreign" means that the transcriptional initiation sequence is not found in the wild-type host into which the transcriptional initiation region is introduced.

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Of particular interest are those transcriptional initiation regions associated with storage proteins, such as napin, cruciferin, β -conglycinin, phaseolin, globulin or the like, and proteins involved in fatty acid biosynthesis, such as acyl carrier protein (ACP). See, U.S. Patent No. 5,420,034, herein incorporated by reference.

The transcriptional cassette will preferably include, in the 5' to 3' direction of transcription, a transcriptional and translational initiation region, a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase DNA sequence of interest, and a transcriptional and translational termination region functional in plants. The termination region may be from the same organism as the transcriptional initiation region, may be from the same organism as the monoterpene synthase DNA, or may be derived from another source. Convenient termination regions are available from the Ti-plasmid of A. tumefaciens, such as the octopine synthase and nopaline synthase termination regions. Other termination sequences are set forth in Guerineau et al., (1991), Mol. Gen. Genet., 262:141-144; Proudfoot, (1991), Cell, 64:671-674; Sanfacon et al., (1991). Genes Dev., 5:141-149; Mogen et al., (1990), Plant Cell, 2:1261-1272; Munroe et al., (1990), Gene, 91:151-15 8; Ballas et al., (1989), Nucleic Acids Res., 17:7891-7903; Joshi et al., (1987), Nucleic Acid Res., 15:9627-9639).

In the presently preferred form of the invention, a nucleic acid sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase protein will be targeted to plastids, such as chloroplasts, for expression. Thus, the nucleic acid sequence, or sequences, encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase protein, or proteins, may be inserted into the plastid for expression with appropriate plastid constructs and regulatory elements. Alternatively, nuclear transformation may be used in which case the expression cassette will contain a nucleic acid sequence encoding a transit peptide to direct the monoterpene biosynthesis enzyme of interest to the plastid. Such transit

peptides are known in the art. See, for example, Von Heijne et al. (1991) *Plant Mol. Biol. Rep.* 9:104-126; Clark et al. (1989) *J. Biol. Chem.* 264:17544-17550; della-Cioppa et al. (1987) *Plant Physiol.* 84:965-968; Romer et al. (1993) *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.* 196:1414-1421; and, Shah et al. (1986) *Science* 233:478-481. Nucleic acid sequences encoding gymnosperm monoterpene synthases of the present invention may utilize native or heterologous transit peptides.

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The construct may also include any other necessary regulators such as plant translational consensus sequences (Joshi, C.P., (1987), *Nucleic Acids Research*, 15:6643-6653), introns (Luehrsen and Walbot, (1991), *Mol. Gen. Genet.*, 225:81-93) and the like, operably linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding a monoterpene synthase of the present invention.

It may be beneficial to include 5' leader sequences in the expression cassette which can act to enhance translation. Translation leaders are known in the art and include: picornavirus leaders, for example, EMCV leader (Encephalomyocarditis 5' noncoding region) (Elroy-Stein, O., Fuerst, T.R., and Moss, B. (1989) *PNAS USA* **86**:6126-6130); potyvirus leaders, for example, TEV leader (Tobacco Etch Virus) (Allison et al. (1986); MDMV leader (Maize Dwarf Mosaic Virus); *Virology*, **154**:9-20), and human immunoglobulin heavy-chain binding protein (BiP), (Macejak, D.G., and Sarnow, P. (1991), *Nature*, **353**:90-94; untranslated leader from the coat protein mRNA of alfalfa mosaic virus (AMV RNA 4), (Jobling, S.A., and Gehrke, L. (1987), *Nature*, **325**:622-625; tobacco mosaic virus leader (TMV), (Gallie, D.R. et al. (1989), *Molecular Biology of RNA*, pages 237-256; and maize chlorotic mottle virus leader (MCMV) (Lommel, S.A. et al. (1991), *Virology*, **81**:382-385. See also, Della-Cioppa et al., (1987), *Plant Physiology*, **84**:965-968.

Depending upon where the monoterpene synthase sequence of interest is to be expressed, it may be desirable to synthesize the sequence with plant preferred codons, or alternatively with chloroplast preferred codons. The plant preferred codons may be determined from the codons of highest frequency in the proteins expressed in the largest amount in the particular plant species of interest. See, EPA 0359472; EPA 0385962; WO 91/16432; Perlak et al. (1991) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 88:3324-3328; and Murray et al. (1989) Nucleic Acids Research 17:477-498. In this manner, the nucleotide sequences can be optimized for expression in any plant. It is recognized that all or any part of the nucleic acid sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase protein may be optimized or synthetic. That is,

synthetic or partially optimized sequences may also be used. For the construction of chloroplast preferred genes, see U.S. Patent No. 5,545,817.

In preparing the transcription cassette, the various DNA fragments may be manipulated, so as to provide for the DNA sequences in the proper orientation and in the proper reading frame. Towards this end, adapters or linkers may be employed to join the DNA fragments or other manipulations may be involved to provide for convenient restriction sites, removal of superfluous DNA, removal of restriction sites, or the like. For this purpose, *in vitro* mutagenesis, primer repair, restriction, annualing, resection, ligation, or the like may be employed, where insertions, deletions or substitutions, such as transitions and transversions, may be involved.

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The recombinant DNA molecules of the invention can be introduced into the plant cell in a number of art-recognized ways. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the choice of method might depend on the type of plant, i.e., monocot or dicot, targeted for transformation. Suitable methods of transforming plant cells include microinjection (Crossway et al. (1986) BioTechniques 4:320-334), electroporation (Riggs et al. (1986) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 83:5602-5606), Agrobacterium mediated transformation (Hinchee et al. (1988) Biotechnology 6:915-921) and ballistic particle acceleration (see, for example, Sanford et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,945,050; and McCabe et al. (1988) Biotechnology 6:923-926). Also see, Weissinger et al. (1988) Annual Rev. Genet. 22:421-477; Sanford et al. (1987) Particulate Science and Technology 5:27-37 (onion); Christou et al. (1988) Plant Physiol. 87:671-674 (soybean); McCabe et al. (1988) Bio/Technology 6:923-926 (soybean); Datta et al. (1990) Biotechnology 8:736-740 (rice); Klein et al (1988) Proc. Natl. Acad Sci. USA, 85:4305-4309 (maize); Klein et al. (1988) Biotechnology 6:559-563 (maize); Klein et al. (1988) Plant Physiol. 91:440-444 (maize); Fronun et al. (1990) Biotechnology 8:833-839; and Gordon-Kamm et al. (1990) Plant Cell 2:603-618 (maize).

Alternatively, a plant plastid can be transformed directly. Stable transformation of chloroplasts has been reported in higher plants, see, for example, SVAB et al. (1990) *Proc. Nat'l. Acad. Sci. USA* 87:85268530; SVAB & Maliga (1993) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 90:913-917; Staub & Maliga (1993) *Embo J.* 12:601-606. The method relies on particle gun delivery of DNA containing a selectable marker and targeting of the DNA to the plastid genome through homologous recombination. In such methods, plastid gene expression can be accomplished by use of a plastid gene promoter or by trans-activation of a silent

plastid-borne transgene positioned for expression from a selective promoter sequence such as that recognized by T7 RNA polymerase. The silent plastid gene is activated by expression of the specific RNA polymerase from a nuclear expression construct and targeting of the polymerase to the plastid by use of a transit peptide. Tissue-specific expression may be obtained in such a method by use of a nuclear-encoded and plastid-directed specific RNA polymerase expressed from a suitable plant tissue specific promoter. Such a system has been reported in McBride et al. (1994) *Proc. Natl. Acad Sci. USA* 91:7301-7305.

The cells which have been transformed may be grown into plants by a variety of art-recognized means. See, for example, McConnick et al., *Plant Cell Reports* (1986), 5:81-84. These plants may then be grown, and either selfed or crossed with a different plant strain, and the resulting homozygotes or hybrids having the desired phenotypic characteristic identified. Two or more generations may be grown to ensure that the subject phenotypic characteristic is stably maintained and inherited and then seeds harvested to ensure the desired phenotype or other property has been achieved.

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As a host cell, any plant variety may be employed. Of particular interest, are plant species which provide seeds of commercial value. For the most part, plants will be chosen where the seed is produced in high amounts, a seed-specific product of interest is involved, or the seed or a seed part is edible. Seeds of interest in the practice of the present invention include, but are not limited to, the oil seeds, such as oilseed Brassica seeds, cotton seeds, soybean, safflower, sunflower, coconut, palm, and the like; grain seeds such as wheat, barley, oats, amaranth, flax, rye, triticale, rice and corn; other edible seeds or seeds with edible parts including pumpkin, squash, sesame, poppy, grape, mung beans, peanut, peas, beans, radish, alfalfa, cocoa, and coffee; and tree nuts such as walnuts, almonds, pecans, and chick-peas.

EXAMPLE 11

A Strategy For Cloning Gymnosperm Monoterpene Synthases

The present invention includes gymnosperm monoterpene synthase proteins, and nucleic acid molecules that encode gymnosperm monoterpene synthase proteins. The amino acid sequence of each of the gymnosperm monoterpene synthase proteins of the present invention each includes at least one of the amino acid sequence elements disclosed in Table 1.

Table 1

Amino Anida	Saguanaa	Orientation	Comments
Amino Acids	Sequence	Offentation	Comments

1	70-77	HENG LV WDDD	F 1	110
1.	70-77	HSN(L, I, V)WDDD	F only	HS makes a poor reverse
		(SEQ ID NO: 46)		primer
2.	148-153	ALDYVY	F and R	
		(SEQ ID NO: 47)		
3.	306-312	ELAKLEF	F and R	
		(SEQ ID NO: 48)		
4.	328-333	RWWKES	F and R	F primer uses 1 st nt of Ser
		(SEQ ID NO: 49)		codon; R uses 1 st two nts
				of Arg codon (rare only)
5.	377-383	(V, I, L) L D D M Y D	F and R	
		(SEQ ID NO: 50)		
6.	377-383	(V, I, L) L D D L Y D	F and R	Degeneracy of M/L at 381
		(SEQ ID NO: 51)		too high for single primer
7.	377-383	(V, I, L) L D D I Y D	F and R	
		(SEQ ID NO: 52)		
8.	543-549	CYMKD(N, H)P	R	F primer can also be
		(SEQ ID NO: 53)		constructed with this
				peptide but is too close to
				the 3' end to be useful

The numbers set forth in Table 1 for the first and last amino acid residue of each of the peptide sequences is the number of the corresponding amino acid residue in the amino acid sequence of the (-)-pinene synthase (SEQ ID NO:4) isolated from *Abies grandis*. Where a sequence of amino acid residues appears in brackets, *e.g.*, (L,I,V) in Table 1, the first amino acid residue within the brackets is the residue that appears in the (-)-pinene synthase amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:4. The subsequent amino acid residues within the brackets represent other amino acid residues that commonly occur at the corresponding position in the amino acid sequence of other *Abies grandis* enzymes involved in terpene synthesis.

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In Table 1, the letter "F" refers to the forward PCR reaction, *i.e.*, the PCR reaction which synthesizes the sense nucleic acid strand that encodes a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase. The letter "R" refers to the reverse PCR reaction, *i.e.*, the PCR reaction that synthesizes the antisense nucleic acid molecule that is complementary to the sense nucleic acid strand synthesized in the forward PCR reaction.

In order to clone nucleic acid molecules encoding gymnosperm monoterpene synthases of the present invention, one or more oligonucleotide molecules corresponding to at least a portion of one of the amino acid sequences set forth in Table 1 can be used as a probe or probes with which to screen a genomic or cDNA library derived from one or more gymnosperm species. In this context, the term "corresponding," or "correspond" or "corresponds," means that the oligonucleotide base sequence either a) encodes all or part of at least one of the amino acid sequences set forth in Table 1, or b) is complementary to a base sequence that encodes all or part of at least one of the amino acid sequences set forth in Table 1. The oligonucleotide probe(s) may contain a synthetic base, such as inosine, which can be substituted for one or more of the four, naturally-occurring bases, *i.e.*, adenine ("A"), guanine ("G"), cytosine ("C") and thymine ("T"). Thus, for example, the following oligonucleotide sequences "correspond" to the tripeptide sequence M M M: 5'ATGATGATG3' (sense orientation) (SEQ ID NO:54); 3'TACTACTAC5' (antisense orientation) (SEQ ID NO:55) and 3'IACIACIAC5' (SEQ ID NO:56).

One or more oligonucleotide sequence(s), corresponding to at least a portion of at least one of the amino acid sequences set forth in Table 1, can be used to screen a nucleic acid library in order to identify monoterpene synthase clones of the present invention, according to methods well known to one of ordinary skill in the art. *See, e.g., Sambrook et al., supra.* The stringency of the hybridization and wash conditions during library screening in accordance with the present invention, utilizing one or more oligonucleotide sequence(s) corresponding to at least a portion of at least one of the amino acid sequences set forth in Table 1, is at least: for the hybridization step, 6X SSPE, 40-45°C, for 36 hours; for the wash step, 3X SSPE, 45°C, 3 X 15 minute washes. The presently preferred hybridization and wash conditions during library screening, utilizing one or more oligonucleotide sequence(s) corresponding to at least a portion of at least one of the amino acid sequences set forth in Table 1, in accordance with the present invention are: for the hybridization step, 6X SSPE, 40-45°C, for 36 hours; for the wash step, 0.1X SSPE, 65°C-70°C, 3 X 15 minute washes.

Examples of oligonucleotide sequences, corresponding to at least one of the amino acid sequences set forth in Table 1, that hybridize, under the foregoing hybridization and wash conditions, to the sense strands of the nucleic acid sequences of the present invention that encode gymnosperm monoterpene synthase proteins are set forth in Table 2.

Table 2

Nucleic Acid Sequence	Corresponds to:
GTG TCG TTG GAG ACC CTG CTG CTG	SEQ ID No. 46
(SEQ ID NO:57)	
CGG GAG CTG ATG CAG ATG (SEQ ID	SEQ ID No. 47
NO:58)	
CTC GAG CGG TTC GAG CTC AAG	SEQ ID No. 48
(SEQ ID NO:59)	•
GCC ACC ACC TTC CTC TCG (SEQ ID	SEQ ID No. 49
NO:60)	
GAG GAG CTG CTG TAC ATG CTG	SEQ ID No. 50
(SEQ ID NO:61)	
GAG GAG CTG CTG GAG ATG CTG	SEQ ID No. 51
(SEQ ID NO:62)	

Similarly, each of the gymnosperm monoterpene synthase clones set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3 and SEQ ID NO:5, or a portion thereof, may be used as a probe to screen a nucleic acid library in order to isolate monoterpene synthase clones of the present invention, according to methods well known to one of ordinary skill in the art. *See, e.g., Sambrook et al, supra*. The stringency of the hybridization and wash conditions during library screening in accordance with the present invention is at least: for the hybridization step, 6X SSPE buffer at 45°C to 50°C for 36 hours; for the wash step, 3X SSPE buffer at 50°C (three, fifteen minute washes). In accordance with the present invention, the presently preferred hybridization and wash conditions during library screening utilizing any of the gymnosperm monoterpene synthase clones set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3 and SEQ ID NO:5, or a portion thereof, as probe are: for the hybridization step, 6X SSPE, 40-45°C, for 36 hours; for the wash step, 0.1X SSPE, 70°C-75°C, 3 X 15 minute washes.

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Additionally, at least two oligonucleotide sequence(s), each corresponding to at least a portion of at least one of the amino acid sequences set forth in Table 1, can be used in a PCR reaction to generate a portion of a monoterpene synthase clone of the present invention, which can be used as a probe to isolate a full-length clone of a monoterpene synthase clone of the present invention. Thus, oligonucleotides that are useful as probes in the forward PCR reaction correspond to at least a portion of at least one of the amino acid sequences disclosed in Table 1 as having the "F" orientation. Conversely, oligonucleotides that are useful as probes in the reverse

PCR reaction correspond to at least a portion of at least one of the amino acid sequences disclosed in Table 1 as having the "R" orientation. PCR reactions can be carried out according to art-recognized PCR reaction conditions, such as the PCR reaction conditions set forth in Example 1 herein and as set forth in "PCR Strategies", M.A. Innis, D.H. Gelfand and J.J. Sninsky, eds., 1995. Academic Press, San Diego, CA (Chapter 14); "PCR Protocols: A Guide to Methods and Applications". M.A. Innis, D.H. Gelfand, J.J. Sninsky and T.J. White, eds., Academic Press, NY (1990). The presently preferred PCR reaction conditions are:

dNTPs	200 μM each
$MgCl_2$	5-7 mM

F and R primers 100 nM - 1 µM each Taq polymerase 1-2 units/reaction cDNA template 10-100 ng/reaction

Buffers, PCR grade water, and Chill-out wax or mineral oil

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The presently preferred thermocycler conditions are:

Denaturation	$94^0 \times 2 \min$	1 cycle
Denaturation	94 ⁰ x 45 s	35 cycles
Annealing	$42^0 - 55^0 \times 45 \text{ s} - 1 \text{ min}$	*1
Polymerization	$72^{0} \times 1-2 \min$	11
Adenylation	72° x 10 min	l cycle

While the preferred embodiment of the invention has been illustrated and described, it will be appreciated that various changes can be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

- 1. An isolated nucleotide sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase, said isolated nucleotide sequence being capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to at least one oligonucleotide having a base sequence that corresponds to at least one peptide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:46, SEQ ID NO:47, SEQ ID NO:48, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:52 and SEQ ID NO:53.
- 2. An isolated nucleotide sequence of Claim 1 encoding a gymnosperm myrcene synthase.
- 3. An isolated nucleotide sequence of Claim 1 encoding a gymnosperm limonene synthase.
- 4. An isolated nucleotide sequence of Claim 1 encoding a gymnosperm pinene synthase.
- 5. An isolated nucleotide sequence of Claim 1 encoding a Grand fir (Abies grandis) monoterpene synthase.
- 6. An isolated nucleotide sequence of Claim 1 encoding a Grand fir (Abies grandis) myrcene synthase.
- 7. An isolated nucleotide sequence of Claim 1 encoding a Grand fir (Abies grandis) limonene synthase.
- 8. An isolated nucleotide sequence of Claim 1 encoding a Grand fir (Abies grandis) pinene synthase.
- 9. An isolated nucleotide sequence of Claim 1 having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 10. An isolated nucleotide sequence of Claim 1 having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.

11. An isolated nucleotide sequence of Claim 1 having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:5

- 12. An isolated nucleotide sequence of Claim 1 which encodes the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 13. An isolated nucleotide sequence of Claim 1 which encodes the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4
- 14. An isolated nucleotide sequence of Claim 1 which encodes the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:6.
- 15. An isolated nucleotide sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase protein, said isolated nucleotide sequence having a complementary nucleotide sequence that is capable of hybridizing to the nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3 and SEQ ID NO:5.
- 16. An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase, said nucleic acid molecule being capable of hybridizing to at least two oligonucleotides, each of said oligonucleotides having a base sequence that corresponds to at least one peptide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:46, SEQ ID NO:47, SEQ ID NO:48, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:52 and SEQ ID NO:53.
- 17. An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a Grand fir (*Abies grandis*) monoterpene synthase, said nucleic acid molecule being capable of hybridizing to at least two oligonucleotides, each of said oligonucleotides having a base sequence that corresponds to at least one peptide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:46, SEQ ID NO:47, SEQ ID NO:48, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:52 and SEQ ID NO:53.
- 18. An isolated gymnosperm monoterpene synthase protein, said gymnosperm monoterpene synthase protein including at least one amino acid sequence element selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:46, SEQ ID NO:47, SEQ ID NO:48, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:52 and SEQ ID NO:53.

19. An isolated gymnosperm myrcene synthase protein, said gymnosperm myrcene synthase protein including at least one amino acid sequence element selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:46, SEQ ID NO:47, SEQ ID NO:48, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:52 and SEQ ID NO:53.

- 20. An isolated gymnosperm pinene synthase protein, said gymnosperm pinene synthase protein including at least one amino acid sequence element selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:46, SEQ ID NO:47, SEQ ID NO:48, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:52 and SEQ ID NO:53.
- 21. An isolated gymnosperm limonene synthase protein, said gymnosperm limonene synthase protein including at least one amino acid sequence element selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:46, SEQ ID NO:47, SEQ ID NO:48, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:52 and SEQ ID NO:53.
- 22. An isolated Grand fir (*Abies grandis*) monoterpene synthase protein, said Grand fir (*Abies grandis*) monoterpene synthase protein including at least one amino acid sequence element selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:46, SEQ ID NO:47, SEQ ID NO:48, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:52 and SEQ ID NO:53.
- 23. An isolated Grand fir (*Abies grandis*) monoterpene synthase protein of Claim 22, said monoterpene synthase protein having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 24. An isolated Grand fir (*Abies grandis*) monoterpene synthase protein of Claim 22, said monoterpene synthase protein having the sequence of SEO ID NO:4.
- 25. An isolated Grand fir (*Abies grandis*) monoterpene synthase protein of Claim 22, said monoterpene synthase protein having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:6.
- 26. A replicable expression vector comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase, said nucleotide sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase being capable of hybridizing at high stringency to at least one oligonucleotide having a base sequence that corresponds to at least one peptide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:46, SEQ ID

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NO:47, SEQ ID NO:48, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:52 and SEQ ID NO:53.

- 27. A replicable expression vector of Claim 26 wherein said nucleotide sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase encodes a Grand fir (*Abies grandis*) monoterpene synthase.
 - 28. A host cell comprising a vector of any one of claims 26 and 27.
- 29. A replicable expression vector comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase, said nucleotide sequence having a complementary nucleotide sequence that is capable of hybridizing to the nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NO:1. SEQ ID NO:3 and SEQ ID NO:5.
 - 30. A host cell comprising a vector of Claim 29.
- 31. A method of enhancing the production of a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase in a suitable host cell comprising introducing into the host cell an expression vector of Claim 26 under conditions enabling expression of the gymnosperm monoterpene synthase in the host cell.
- 32. A method for enhancing monoterpene levels in a host cell, said method comprising transforming said host cell with a nucleic acid construct comprising at least one nucleic acid sequence defining a transcriptional initiation region from a gene expressed in the host cell and at least one nucleic acid sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase, said nucleic acid sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase being capable of hybridizing at high stringency to at least one oligonucleotide having a base sequence that corresponds to at least one peptide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:46, SEQ ID NO:47, SEQ ID NO:48, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:52 and SEQ ID NO:53.
 - 33. The method of Claim 32 wherein said nucleic acid sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase encodes a Grand fir (*Abies grandis*) monoterpene synthase.
 - 34. A method for altering monoterpene levels in a seed from a host plant, said method comprising transforming said host plant with a nucleic acid construct

comprising at least one nucleic acid sequence defining a transcriptional initiation region from a gene expressed in a plant seed and at least one nucleic acid sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase, said nucleic acid sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase being capable of hybridizing at high stringency to at least one oligonucleotide having a base sequence that corresponds to at least one peptide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:46, SEQ ID NO:47, SEQ ID NO:48, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:52 and SEQ ID NO:53.

- 35. The method of Claim 34 wherein the transcriptional initiation region is from a gene preferentially expressed in a plant seed.
- 36. The method of Claim 34 wherein said nucleic acid sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase encodes a Grand fir (*Abies grandis*) monoterpene synthase.
- 37. The method of Claim 34 wherein said gymnosperm monoterpene synthase is not native to said host plant.
 - 38. A transgenic plant produced according to the method of Claim 34.
- 39. A method for increasing the monoterpene biosynthetic flux in seed from a host plant, said method comprising transforming said host plant with a construct comprising as operably linked components, a transcriptional initiation region from a gene preferentially expressed in a plant seed, a plastid transit peptide, a DNA sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase protein, and a transcriptional termination region, said DNA sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase protein being capable of hybridizing at high stringency to at least one oligonucleotide having a base sequence that corresponds to at least one peptide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:46, SEQ ID NO:47, SEQ ID NO:48, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:52 and SEQ ID NO:53.
- 40. The method of Claim 39, wherein said DNA sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase protein encodes an enzyme selected from the group consisting of limonene synthase, myrcene synthase and pinene synthase.

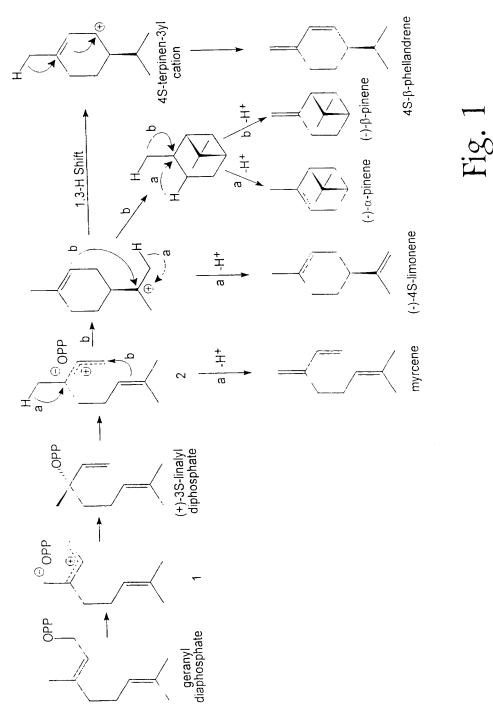
41. A method for producing a monoterpene compound in a seed, said method comprising the steps of obtaining a transformed plant which produces said seed, said plant having and expressing in its genome:

a nucleic acid sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase protein which is operably linked to a plastid transit peptide and a transcriptional initiation region from a gene preferentially expressed in a plant seed, wherein said nucleic acid sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase protein is capable of hybridizing at high stringency to at least one oligonucleotide having a base sequence that corresponds to at least one peptide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:46. SEQ ID NO:47, SEQ ID NO:48, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:52 and SEQ ID NO:53.

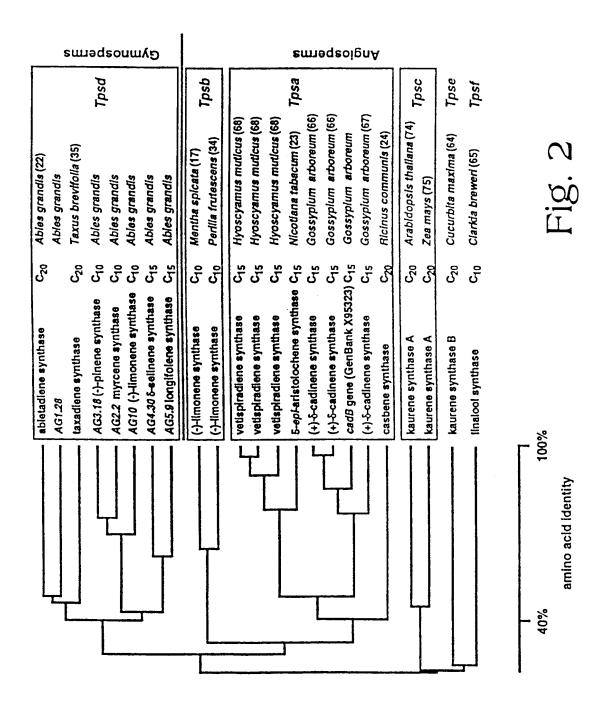
- 42. A seed transformed with a nucleic acid sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase protein, said nucleic acid sequence encoding a gymnosperm monoterpene synthase protein being capable of hybridizing at high stringency to at least one oligonucleotide having a base sequence that corresponds to at least one peptide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:SEQ ID NO:46. SEQ ID NO:47, SEQ ID NO:48, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:52 and SEQ ID NO:53, said transformed seed having altered monoterpene levels.
- 43. The transformed seed of claim 42, wherein said seed produces increased levels of at least one monoterpene compound, said monoterpene compound selected from the group consisting of (-)-4S-limonene, (-)- α -pinene, myrcene, 4S- β -phellandrene.
- 44. The transformed seed of claim 43, wherein said seed produces increased levels of (-)4S-limonene.
- 45. Seed produced by the method of any one of claims 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40 and 41.
- 46. Plants produced by the method of any one of claims 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40 and 41.

47. Oil extracted from seeds produced by the method of any one of claims 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40 and 41.

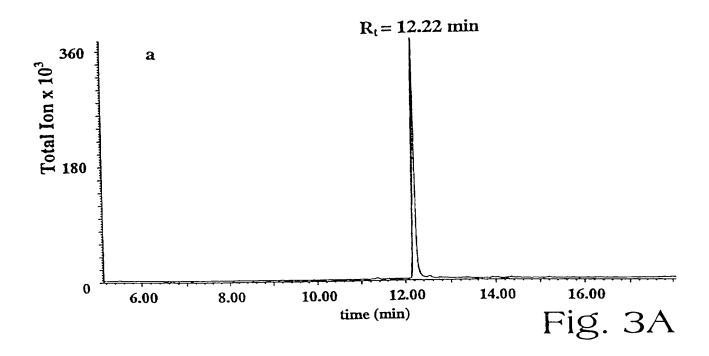
- 48. Meal extracted from seed produced by the method of any one of claims 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40 and 41.
- 49. The method of any one of claims 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40 and 41, wherein said seed is from a plant selected from the group consisting of oilseed Brassica, cotton, soybean, safflower, sunflower, coconut, palm, wheat, barley, rice, corn, oats, amaranth, pumpkin, squash, sesame, poppy, grape, mung beans, peanut, peas, beans, radish, alfalfa, cocoa, coffee, and tree nuts.
- 50. The method of Claim 49, wherein said seed is from an oilseed crop plant selected from the group consisting of oilseed brassica, cotton, soybean, safflower, sunflower, palm, coconut, and corn.

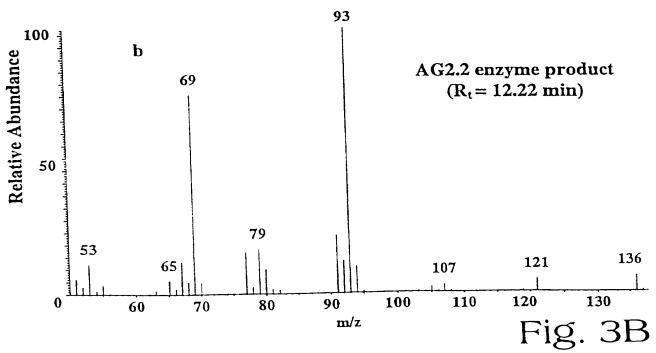


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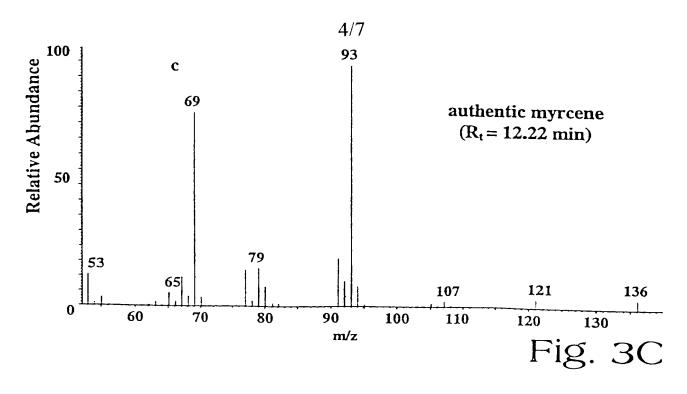


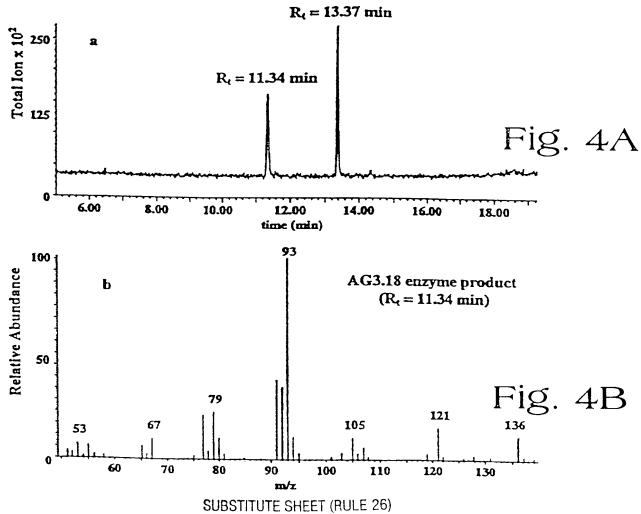
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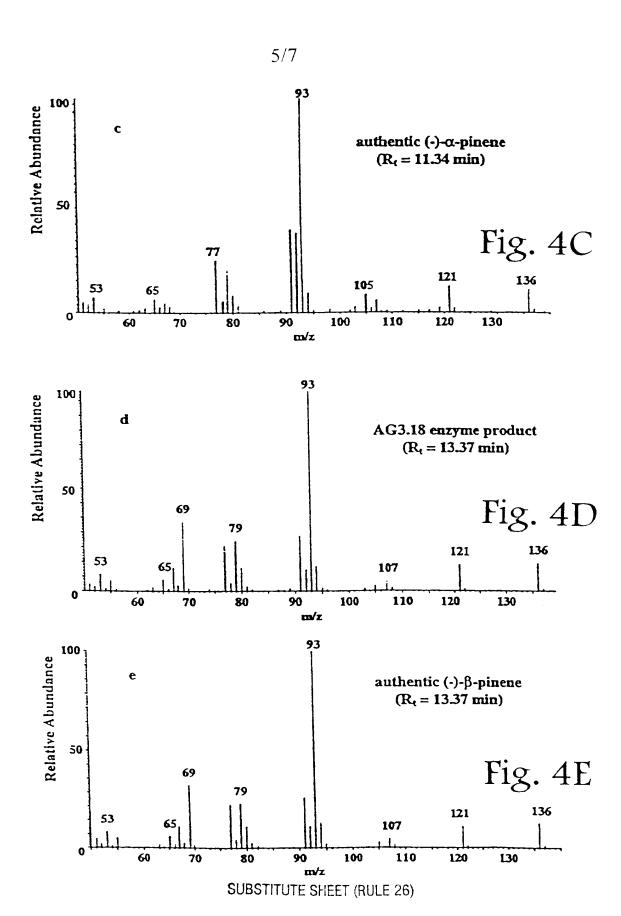




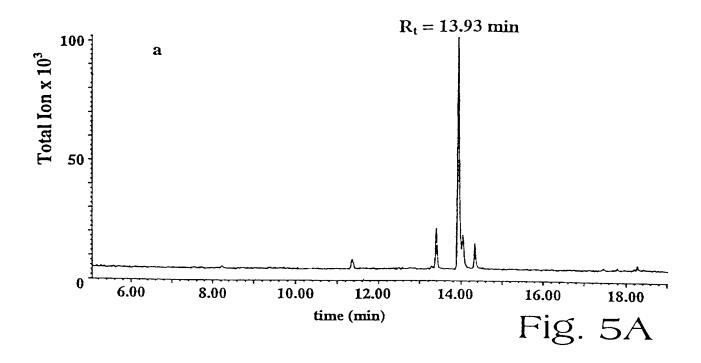
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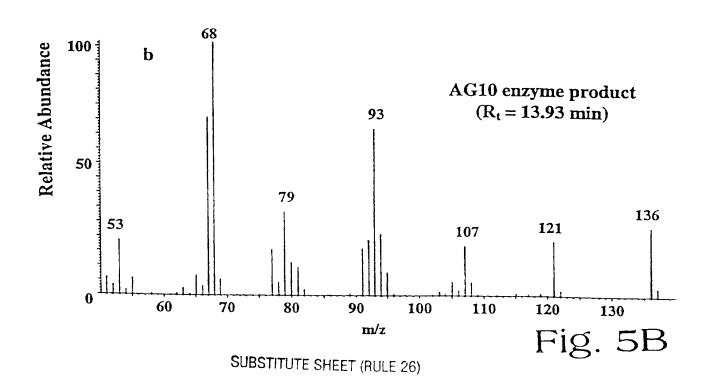


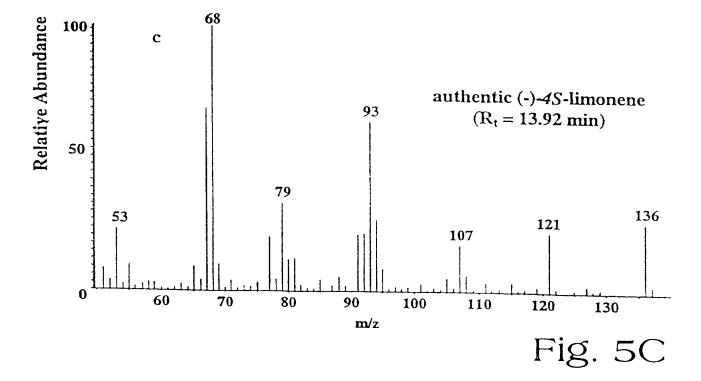




6/7







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			200					265					Glu 270		
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	250					295					300		Met		
Phe 305	Glu	Pro	Glu	Phe	Ser 310	Glu	Ser	Arg	Ile	Ala 315	Phe	Ala	Lys	Thr	Ala 320
				323					330				Ala	335	
			340					345					Asp 350		
		333					360					365	Gln		
	370					3/5					380		Arg		
000					390					395			Tyr		400
				405					410				Ile	415	
Phe	Asn	Glu	Tyr	Ile	Lys	Asn	Gly	Met	Ala	Ser	Ser	Glv	Met	Cvs	Tle

PCT/US98/14528

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Leu 465	Thr	Gly	Arg	Ile	Ala 470	Asp	Asp	Leu	Lys	Asp 475	Phe	Glu	Asp	Glu	Lys 480	
Glu	Arg	Gly	Glu	Met 485	Ala	Ser	Ser	Leu	Gln 4 90	Суѕ	Tyr	Met	Lys	Glu 495	Asn	
Pro	Glu	Ser	Thr 500	Val	Glu	Asn	Ala	Leu 505	Asn	His	Ile	Lys	Gly 510	Ile	Leu	
	Arg	313					520					525				
	Pro 530					333					540					
Gln 545	Phe	Ile	Tyr	Lys	Tyr 550	Arg	Asp	Gly	Leu	Tyr 555	Ile	Ser	Asp	Lys	Glu 560	
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aaa Lys	gtt Val	tta Leu	gca Ala	gga Gly 20	cgg Arg	gag Glu	gct Ala	acc Thr	cac His 25	gtc Val	gat Asp	gaa Glu	agc Ser	ctt Leu 30	ttg Leu	95
gga Gly	gag Glu	gtg Val	aag Lys 35	tac Tyr	gca Ala	ttg Leu	gag Glu	ttt Phe 40	cca Pro	tgg Trp	cat His	tgc Cys	agt Ser 45	gtg Val	cag Gln	143
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gag	ctt	aag	tcg	aat	ttg	agc	aaa	aaa	atq	tta	gag	tta	aca	aaa	tta	230

Glu	Leu 65	Lys	Ser	Asn	Leu	Ser 70	Lys	Lys	Met	Leu	Glu 75	Leu	Ala	Lys	Leu	
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Der	agg Arg	тър	rne	100	Asp	ser	Ser	Ile	Ala 105	Ser	Leu	Asn	Phe	Tyr 110	Arg	335
, -	tgt Cys	- , -	115	GIU	rne	Tyr	rne	120	Met	Ala	Ala	Ala	Ile 125	Ser	Glu	383
	gag Glu	130	Ser	GIĀ	ser	Arg	135	Ala	Phe	Thr	Lys	11e 140	Ala	Ile	Leu	431
	aca Thr 145		Leu	Asp	Asp	150	Tyr	Asp	Thr	His	Gly 155	Thr	Leu	Asp	Gln	479
160	aaa Lys	116	rne	Int	165	GIÀ	Val	Arg	Arg	Trp 170	Asp	Val	Ser	Leu	Val 175	527
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atg Met	gcg Ala	gcc Ala 210	tac Tyr	ata Ile	aga Arg	aaa Lys	aat Asn 215	gca Ala	tgg Trp	gag Glu	cga Arg	tac Tyr 220	ctt Leu	gaa Glu	gct Ala	671
tat Tyr	ctg Leu 225	caa Gln	gat Asp	gcg Ala	gaa Glu	tgg Trp 230	ata Ile	gcc Ala	act Thr	gga Gly	cat His 235	gtc Val	ccc Pro	acc Thr	ttt Phe	719
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ctg Leu	gag Glu	caa Gln	ata Ile 275	ttc Phe	ttg Leu	ccc Pro	tcc Ser	agg Arg 280	ttc Phe	cac His	cat His	ctc Leu	att Ile 285	gaa Glu	ttg Leu	863
gct Ala	tcc Ser	agg Arg 290	ctc Leu	gtc Val	gat Asp	gac Asp	gcg Ala 295	a ga Arg	gat Asp	ttc Phe	cag Gln	gcg Ala 300	gag Glu	aag Lys	gat Asp	911
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	Gly 305	Asp	Leu	Ser	Cys	Ile 310	Glu	Cys	Туr	Leu	Lys 315	Asp	His	Pro	Glu	
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cys	ctt Leu	reu	GIU	340	Asn	Trp	Lys	Phe	Leu 345	Lys	Lys	Gln	Asp	Ser 350	Val	1055
cca Pro	ctc Leu	tcg Ser	tgt Cys 355	aag Lys	aag Lys	tac Tyr	agc Ser	ttc Phe 360	cat His	gta Val	ttg Leu	gca Ala	cga Arg 365	agc Ser	atc Ile	1103
caa Gln	ttc Phe	atg Met 370	tac Tyr	aat Asn	caa Gln	ggc Gly	gat Asp 375	ggc Gly	ttc Phe	tcc Ser	att Ile	tcg Ser 380	aac Asn	aaa Lys	gtg Val	1151
atc Ile	aag Lys 385	gat Asp	caa Gln	gtg Val	cag Gln	aaa Lys 390	gtt Val	ctt Leu	att Ile	gtc Val	ccc Pro 395	gtg Val	cct Pro	att Ile	tga	1199
tag	tagai	tac 1	tagai	tagta	ag at	ttagt	tage	t ati	tagt	attt	att	cata	atc a	aatat	ttact	1259
aat	gctga	atg a	atggt	ttaaa	ag to	ccatt	caga	a cca	aatc	ttg	gtti	tatte	gga d	ettaa	aataaa	1319
tga	attaa	att a	agtti	tgtti	t aa	aaatt	gta	c tai	tta	ctgt	tgga	aaata	aat	gttt	catta	1379
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							7 7 7	- 23	9-	-						1416
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115 120 125 Glu Phe Ser Gly Ser Arg Val Ala Phe Thr Lys Ile Ala Ile Leu Met 135 Thr Met Leu Asp Asp Leu Tyr Asp Thr His Gly Thr Leu Asp Gln Leu Lys Ile Phe Thr Glu Gly Val Arg Arg Trp Asp Val Ser Leu Val Glu Gly Leu Pro Asp Phe Met Lys Ile Ala Phe Glu Phe Trp Leu Lys Thr 185 Ser Asn Glu Leu Ile Ala Glu Ala Val Lys Ala Gln Gly Gln Asp Met Ala Ala Tyr Ile Arg Lys Asn Ala Trp Glu Arg Tyr Leu Glu Ala Tyr Leu Gln Asp Ala Glu Trp Ile Ala Thr Gly His Val Pro Thr Phe Asp Glu Tyr Leu Asn Asn Gly Thr Pro Asn Thr Gly Met Cys Val Leu Asn Leu Ile Pro Leu Leu Met Gly Glu His Leu Pro Ile Asp Ile Leu Glu Gln Ile Phe Leu Pro Ser Arg Phe His His Leu Ile Glu Leu Ala Ser Arg Leu Val Asp Asp Ala Arg Asp Phe Gln Ala Glu Lys Asp His Gly Asp Leu Ser Cys Ile Glu Cys Tyr Leu Lys Asp His Pro Glu Ser Thr Val Glu Asp Ala Leu Asn His Val Asn Gly Leu Leu Gly Asn Cys 325 Leu Leu Glu Met Asn Trp Lys Phe Leu Lys Lys Gln Asp Ser Val Pro 345 Leu Ser Cys Lys Lys Tyr Ser Phe His Val Leu Ala Arg Ser Ile Gln Phe Met Tyr Asn Gln Gly Asp Gly Phe Ser Ile Ser Asn Lys Val Ile Lys Asp Gln Val Gln Lys Val Leu Ile Val Pro Val Pro Ile 390 <210> 21

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<213> Artificial Sequence

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<221> misc_feature
<222> (1)..(23)
<223> PCR primer E wherein the letter n represents
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                                                                   23
<210> 22
<211> 24
<212> DNA
<213> Artificial Sequence
<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: degenerate
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                                                                   24
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                                                                   21
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<211> 533
<212> DNA
<213> Abies grandis
<400> 24
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cacacatatt tgccgcgatt ggaagcaagg aattacatcc aagtctttgg acaggacact 180
gagaacacga agtcatatgt gaagagcaaa aaacttttag aactcgcaaa attggagttc 240
aacatettte aateettaet egeatateeg eattgeaace eattetgaea atggaeatee 300
cctttcctga tcatatcctc aaggaagttg acttcccatc aaagcttaac gacttggcat 360
gtgccatcct tcgattacga ggtgatacgc ggtgctacaa ggcggacagg gctcgtggag 420
aagaagcttc ctctatatca tgttatatga aagacaatcc tggagtatca gaggaagatg 480
ctctcgatca tatcaacgcc atgatcagtg acgaagtcaa aggcttcaat tgg
                                                                  533
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<211> 8
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<213> Artificial Sequence
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<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: conserved
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      was based, wherein Xaa at position number 3 represents Thr or Ile, Xaa at
position number 4 represents Ile or Tyr or Phe, Xaa at position number 6
represents Ala or Val and Xaa at position number 8 represents Ala or Gly
<220>
<221> SITE
<222> (1)..(8)
<223> conserved amino acid motif on which sequence of
      primer D was based
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<210> 26
<211> 8
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence
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<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: conserved
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4 represents Val or Ile, Xaa at position 6 represents Glu or Asp
<220>
<221> SITE
<222> (1)..(8)
<223> conserved amino acid sequence on which the
      sequence of primer E was based
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<210> 27
<211> 7
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence
<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: conserved
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Xaa at position 3 represents Ile or Leu, Xaa at position 4 represents Thr or Leu
or Arg
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<223> conserved amino acid sequence on which the
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                                                                 1
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Ala Leu Val Ser Ile Ser Pro Leu Ala Ser Lys Ser Cys Leu Arg Lys
tog ttg atc agt toa att cat gaa cat aag oot ooc tat aga aca atc
Ser Leu Ile Ser Ser Ile His Glu His Lys Pro Pro Tyr Arg Thr Ile
                                                                   155
                             25
cca aat ctt gga atg cgt agg cga ggg aaa tct gtc acg cct tcc atg
                                                                   203
Pro Asn Leu Gly Met Arg Arg Gly Lys Ser Val Thr Pro Ser Met
age ate agt ttg gee ace get gea eet gat gat ggt gta caa aga ege
Ser Ile Ser Leu Ala Thr Ala Ala Pro Asp Asp Gly Val Gln Arg Arg
ata ggt gac tac cat tcc aat atc tgg gac gat gat ttc ata cag tct
Ile Gly Asp Tyr His Ser Asn Ile Trp Asp Asp Asp Phe Ile Gln Ser
cta tca acg cat tat ggg gaa ccc tct tac cag gaa cgt gct gag aga
                                                                   347
Leu Ser Thr His Tyr Gly Glu Pro Ser Tyr Gln Glu Arg Ala Glu Arg
             8.5
tta att gtg gag gta aag ata ttc aat tca atg tac ctg gat gat
Leu Ile Val Glu Val Lys Lys Ile Phe Asn Ser Met Tyr Leu Asp Asp
                                                                   395
                            105
gga aga tta atg agt tcc ttt aat gat ctc atg caa cgc ctt tgg ata
Gly Arg Leu Met Ser Ser Phe Asn Ásp Leu Met Gln Arg Leu Trp Ile
    115
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att Ile	gga Gly	tgt Cys	ggg Gly 165	aga Arg	gac Asp	agt Ser	att Ile	gtt Val 170	act Thr	gat Asp	ctc Leu	aac Asn	tca Ser 175	act Thr	gcg Ala	587
ttg Leu	ej A aaa	ttt Phe 180	cga Arg	act Thr	ctt Leu	cga Arg	tta Leu 185	cac His	ggg Gly	tac Tyr	act Thr	gta Val 190	tct Ser	cca Pro	gag Glu	635
gtt Val	tta Leu 195	aaa Lys	gct Ala	ttt Phe	caa Gln	gat Asp 200	caa Gln	aat Asn	gga Gly	cag Gln	ttt Phe 205	gta Val	tgc Cys	tcc Ser	ccc Pro	683
ggt Gly 210	cag Gln	aca Thr	gag Glu	ggt Gly	gag Glu 215	atc Ile	aga Arg	agc Ser	gtt Val	ctt Leu 220	aac Asn	tta Leu	tat Tyr	cgg Arg	gct Ala 225	731
tcc Ser	ctc Leu	att Ile	gcc Ala	ttc Phe 230	cct Pro	ggt Gly	gag Glu	aaa Lys	gtt Val 235	atg Met	gaa Glu	gaa Glu	gct Ala	gaa Glu 2 4 0	atc Ile	779
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gct Ala	ctt Leu	tca Ser 260	caa Gln	gag Glu	ata Ile	aag Lys	ttt Phe 265	gtt Val	atg Met	gaa Glu	tat Tyr	ggc Gly 270	tgg Trp	cac His	aca Thr	875
aat Asn	ttg Leu 275	cca Pro	aga Arg	ttg Leu	gaa Glu	gca Ala 280	aga Arg	aat Asn	tac Tyr	ata Ile	gac Asp 285	aca Thr	ctt Leu	gag Glu	aaa Lys	923
gac Asp 290	acc Thr	agt Ser	gca Ala	tgg Trp	ctc Leu 295	aat Asn	aaa Lys	aat Asn	gct Ala	300 Gly ggg	aag Lys	aag Lys	ctt Leu	tta Leu	gaa Glu 305	971
ctt Leu	gca Ala	aaa Lys	ttg Leu	gag Glu 310	ttc Phe	aat Asn	ata Ile	ttt Phe	aac Asn 315	tcc Ser	tta Leu	caa Gln	caa Gln	aag Lys 320	gaa Glu	1019
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aca Thr	ttt Phe	gct Ala 340	cgg Arg	cat His	cgt Arg	cat His	gtg Val 345	gaa Glu	ttc Phe	tac Tyr	act Thr	ttg Leu 350	gcc Ala	tct Ser	tgt Cys	1115
att Ile	gcc Ala 355	att Ile	gac Asp	cca Pro	aaa Lys	cat His 360	tct Ser	gca Ala	ttc Phe	aga Arg	cta Leu 365	ggc Gly	ttc Phe	gcc Ala	aaa Lys	1163

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acg Thr	att Ile	gac Asp	gag Glu	ctt Leu 390	gaa Glu	ctc Leu	ttc Phe	aca Thr	tct Ser 395	gca Ala	att Ile	aag Lys	aga Arg	tgg Trp 400	aat Asn	1259
Sel	tca Ser	GIU	405	Glu	Hls	Leu	Pro	Glu 410	Tyr	Met	Lys	Cys	Val 415	Tyr	Met	1307
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GIII	ggg Gly 435	AIG	ASN	Thr	Leu	44 0	Tyr	Val	Arg	Lys	Ala 445	Trp	Glu	Ala	Tyr	1403
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110	acg Thr	rne	GIU	470	Tyr	His	Glu	Asn	Gly 475	Lys	Val	Ser	Ser	Ala 480	Tyr	1499
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Asp	tac Tyr	500	Leu	rys	GIÀ	Ile	Asp 505	Phe	Pro	Ser	Arg	Phe 510	Asn	qzA	Leu	1595
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Asp	aat Asn	PIO	GIÀ	550	Thr	Glu	Glu	Asp	Ala 555	Leu	Asn	His	Ile	Asn 560	Ala	1739
atg Met	gtc Val	aat Asn	gac Asp 565	ata Ile	atc Ile	aaa Lys	gaa Glu	tta Leu 570	aat Asn	tgg Trp	gaa Glu	ctt Leu	cta Leu 575	aga Arg	tcc Ser	1787
aac Asn	gac Asp	aat Asn 580	att Ile	cca Pro	atg Met	ctg Leu	gcc Ala 585	aag Lys	aaa Lys	cat His	gct Ala	ttt Phe 590	gac Asp	ata Ile	aca Thr	1835
aga Arg	gct Ala 595	ctc Leu	cac His	cat His	ctc Leu	tac Tyr 600	ata Ile	tat Tyr	cga Arg	gat Asp	ggc Gly 605	ttt Phe	agt Ser	gtt Val	gcc Ala	1883

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aac aag gaa aca aaa aaa ttg gtt atg gaa aca ctc ctt gaa tct atg Asn Lys Glu Thr Lys Lys Leu Val Met Glu Thr Leu Leu Glu Ser Met 615 620 ctt ttt taa cta taaccatatc cataataata agctcataat gctaaattat 1983 Leu Phe tggccttatg acatagttta tgtatgtact tgtgtgaatt caatcatatc gtgtgggtat 2043 gattaaaaag ctagagctta ctaggttagt aacatggtga taaaagttat aaaatgtgag 2103 ttatagagat acccatgttg aataatgaat tacaaaaaga gaaatttatg tagaataaga 2163 ttggaagctt ttcaattgtt ttaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaa aa 2205 <210> 32 <211> 627 <212> PRT <213> Abies grandis <400> 32 Met Ala Leu Val Ser Ile Ser Pro Leu Ala Ser Lys Ser Cys Leu Arg Lys Ser Leu Ile Ser Ser Ile His Glu His Lys Pro Pro Tyr Arg Thr Ile Pro Asn Leu Gly Met Arg Arg Gly Lys Ser Val Thr Pro Ser Met Ser Ile Ser Leu Ala Thr Ala Ala Pro Asp Asp Gly Val Gln Arg Arg Ile Gly Asp Tyr His Ser Asn Ile Trp Asp Asp Asp Phe Ile Gln 65 Ser Leu Ser Thr His Tyr Gly Glu Pro Ser Tyr Gln Glu Arg Ala Glu Arg Leu Ile Val Glu Val Lys Lys Ile Phe Asn Ser Met Tyr Leu Asp 105 Asp Gly Arg Leu Met Ser Ser Phe Asn Asp Leu Met Gln Arg Leu Trp Ile Val Asp Ser Val Glu Arg Leu Gly Ile Ala Arg His Phe Lys Asn Glu Ile Thr Ser Ala Leu Asp Tyr Val Phe Arg Tyr Trp Glu Glu Asn Gly Ile Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Ser Ile Val Thr Asp Leu Asn Ser Thr Ala Leu Gly Phe Arg Thr Leu Arg Leu His Gly Tyr Thr Val Ser Pro 180 Glu Val Leu Lys Ala Phe Gln Asp Gln Asn Gly Gln Phe Val Cys Ser

195 200 205 Pro Gly Gln Thr Glu Gly Glu Ile Arg Ser Val Leu Asn Leu Tyr Arg Ala Ser Leu Ile Ala Phe Pro Gly Glu Lys Val Met Glu Glu Ala Glu Ile Phe Ser Thr Arg Tyr Leu Lys Glu Ala Leu Gln Lys Ile Pro Val Ser Ala Leu Ser Gln Glu Ile Lys Phe Val Met Glu Tyr Gly Trp His Thr Asn Leu Pro Arg Leu Glu Ala Arg Asn Tyr Ile Asp Thr Leu Glu Lys Asp Thr Ser Ala Trp Leu Asn Lys Asn Ala Gly Lys Lys Leu Leu Glu Leu Ala Lys Leu Glu Phe Asn Ile Phe Asn Ser Leu Gln Gln Lys Glu Leu Gln Tyr Leu Leu Arg Trp Trp Lys Glu Ser Asp Leu Pro Lys Leu Thr Phe Ala Arg His Arg His Val Glu Phe Tyr Thr Leu Ala Ser Cys Ile Ala Ile Asp Pro Lys His Ser Ala Phe Arg Leu Gly Phe Ala Lys Met Cys His Leu Val Thr Val Leu Asp Asp Ile Tyr Asp Thr Phe Gly Thr Ile Asp Glu Leu Glu Leu Phe Thr Ser Ala Ile Lys Arg Trp 395 Asn Ser Ser Glu Ile Glu His Leu Pro Glu Tyr Met Lys Cys Val Tyr Met Val Val Phe Glu Thr Val Asn Glu Leu Thr Arg Glu Ala Glu Lys 425 Thr Gln Gly Arg Asn Thr Leu Asn Tyr Val Arg Lys Ala Trp Glu Ala Tyr Phe Asp Ser Tyr Met Glu Glu Ala Lys Trp Ile Ser Asn Gly Tyr Leu Pro Thr Phe Glu Glu Tyr His Glu Asn Gly Lys Val Ser Ser Ala Tyr Arg Val Ala Thr Leu Gln Pro Ile Leu Thr Leu Asn Ala Trp Leu Pro Asp Tyr Ile Leu Lys Gly Ile Asp Phe Pro Ser Arg Phe Asn Asp Leu Ala Ser Ser Phe Leu Arg Leu Arg Gly Asp Thr Arg Cys Tyr Lys

515 520 525 Ala Asp Arg Asp Arg Gly Glu Glu Ala Ser Cys Ile Ser Cys Tyr Met 535 Lys Asp Asn Pro Gly Ser Thr Glu Glu Asp Ala Leu Asn His Ile Asn 545 Ala Met Val Asn Asp Ile Ile Lys Glu Leu Asn Trp Glu Leu Leu Arg Ser Asn Asp Asn Ile Pro Met Leu Ala Lys Lys His Ala Phe Asp Ile 580 585 Thr Arg Ala Leu His His Leu Tyr Ile Tyr Arg Asp Gly Phe Ser Val Ala Asn Lys Glu Thr Lys Lys Leu Val Met Glu Thr Leu Leu Glu Ser Met Leu Phe 625 <210> 33 <211> 24 <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequence <223> Description of Artificial Sequence: PCR oligonucleotide primer 2.2 BamHI <400> 33 caaagggatc cagaatggct ctgg 24 <210> 34 <211> 30 <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequence <220> <223> Description of Artificial Sequence: PCR oligonucleotide primer 2.2 Not I <400> 34 agtaagcggc cgctttttaa tcatacccac 30 <210> 35 <211> 21 <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequence <220> <223> Description of Artificial Sequence: PCR oligonucleotide primer 3.18 EcoRI <400> 35

ctgcaggaat tcggcacgag c	21
<210> 36 <211> 27 <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequence	
<220> <223> Description of Artificial Sequence: PCR oligonucleotide primer 3.18 SmaI	
<400> 36 catageceg ggeatagatt tgagetg	27
<210> 37 <211> 30 <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequence	
<220> <223> Description of Artificial Sequence: PCR oligonucleotide primer 10 NdeI	
<400> 37 ggcaggaaca tatggctctc ctttctatcg	30
<210> 38 <211> 30 <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequence	
<220> <223> Description of Artificial Sequence: PCR oligonucleotide primer 10 BamHI	
<400> 38 totagaacta gtggatcccc cgggctgcag	30
<210> 39 <211> 18 <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequence	
<220> <223> Description of Artificial Sequence: PCR oligonucleotide primer JB29	
<400> 39 ctaccattcc aatatctg	18
<210> 40 <211> 20 <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequence	

<220> <223> Description of oligonucleotid	Artificial Sequence: e primer 2-8	PCR	
<400> 40 gttggatctt agaagttcc	c	:	20
<210> 41 <211> 20 <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequ	uence		
<220>	Artificial Seguence:	PCR	
<400> 41 tttccattcc aacctctgg	g	2	20
<210> 42 <211> 20 <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequ	lence		
<220> <223> Description of oligonucleotide	Artificial Sequence: primer 3-11	PCR	
<400> 42 cgtaatggaa agctctggcg	3	2	20
<210> 43 <211> 20 <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequ	lence		
<220> <223> Description of oligonucleotide	Artificial Sequence: primer 7-1	PCR	
<400> 43 ccttacacgc ctttggatgg	3	2	20
<210> 44 <211> 20 <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequ	lence		
<220> <223> Description of oligonucleotide	Artificial Sequence: sequence 7-3	PCR	
<400> 44 tctgttgatc caggatggto	2	2	20

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<210> 45
<211> 5
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence
<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: conserved
      amino acid motif common to all prenyl transferases wherein Xaa at position
 3 and 4 represents any amino acid
<400> 45
Asp Asp Xaa Xaa Asp
<210> 46
<211> 8
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence
<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: amino acid
      motif from which oligonucleotide primers can be
      synthesized that hybridize to the monoterpene
      synthases of the present invention, wherein Xaa at position 4 represents
 Leu or Ile or Val
<400> 46
His Ser Asn Xaa Trp Asp Asp Asp
<210> 47
<211> 6
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence
<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: amino acid
      motif from which degenerate oligonucleotides can
      be constructed that hybridize to the monoterpene
      synthases of the present invention
<400> 47
Ala Leu Asp Tyr Val Tyr
<210> 48
<211> 7
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence
<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: amino acid
      motif from which degenerate oligonucleotide
      sequences can be constructed that hybridize to the
      monoterpene synthases of the present invention
<400> 48
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 $(\mathbf{v}_{k+1}, \mathbf{v}_{k+1}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{k+1}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{k+1}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{k+1}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{k+1}) = \mathbf{v}_{k+1}$

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Glu Leu Ala Lys Leu Glu Phe
<210> 49
<211> 6
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence
<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: amino acid
      motif from which degenerate oligonucleotide
      sequences can be constructed that hybridize to
      monoterpene synthase clones of the present
      invention
<400> 49
Arg Trp Trp Lys Glu Ser
<210> 50
<211> 7
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence
<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: amino acid
      motif from which oligonucleotide sequeences can be
      constructed that hybridize to monoterpene synthase
      clones of the present invention, wherein Xaa at position 1 represents Val
 or Ile or Leu
<400> 50
Xaa Leu Asp Asp Met Tyr Asp
<210> 51
<211> 7
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence
<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: amino acid
      motif from which oligonucleotide sequences can be
      constructed that hybridize to monoterpene synthase
      clones of the present invention wherein Xaa at position 1 reperesents Val
or Ile or Leu
<400> 51
Xaa Leu Asp Asp Leu Tyr Asp
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<210> 52
<211> 7
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence
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<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: amino acid
      motif from which oligonucleotide sequences can be
      constructed that hybridize to the monoterpene
      synthase clones of the present invention, wherein Xaa at position 1
 represents Val or Ile or Leu
<400> 52
Xaa Leu Asp Asp Ile Tyr Asp
<210> 53
<211> 7
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence
<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: amino acid
      motif from which oligonucleotide sequences can be
      constructed that hybridize to the monoterpene
      synthase clones of the present invention, wherein Xaa at position 6
 represents Asn or His
<400> 53
Cys Tyr Met Lys Asp Xaa Pro
<210> 54
<211> 9
<212> DNA
<213> Artificial Sequence
<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: exemplary
      oligonucleotide that corresponds to peptide
      sequence MetMetMet
<400> 54
atgatgatg
                                                                   9
<210> 55
<211> 9
<212> DNA
<213> Artificial Sequence
<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: exemplary
      oligonucleotide sequence that corresponds to
      peptide sequence MetMetMet
<400> 55
tactactac
<210> 56
<211> 9
<212> DNA
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<213> Artificial Sequence
<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: exemplary
      oligonucleotide that corresponds to peptide
      sequence MetMetMet, n is inosine
<400> 56
nacnacnac
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<210> 57
<211> 24
<212> DNA
<213> Artificial Sequence
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence:
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      sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:46
<220>
<221> misc_feature
<222> (1)..(24)
<223> Oligonucleotide that corresponds to the conserved
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<400> 57
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<210> 58
<211> 18
<212> DNA
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<220>
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<220>
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<222> (1) ... (18)
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<210> 59
<211> 21
<212> DNA
<213> Artificial Sequence
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      sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:48
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<220>
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<223> Oligonucleotide that corresponds to conserved
      amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:48
<400> 59
ctcgagcggt tcgagctcaa g
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<210> 60
<211> 18
<212> DNA
<213> Artificial Sequence
<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence:
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      sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:49
<220>
<221> misc feature
<222> (1)..(18)
<223> Oligonucleotide that corresponds to conserved
      amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:49
<400> 60
                                                                    18
gccaccacct tcctctcg
<210> 61
<211> 21
 <212> DNA
 <213> Artificial Sequence
 <220>
 <223> Description of Artificial Sequence:
       oligonucleotide sequence corresponding to amino
       acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:50
 <220>
 <221> misc_feature
 <222> (1) ... (21)
 <223> Oligonucleotide sequence corresponding to amino
       acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:50
 <400> 61
 gaggagctgc tgtacatgct g
                                                                     21
 <210> 62
 <211> 21
 <212> DNA
 <213> Artificial Sequence
 <220>
 <223> Description of Artificial Sequence:
       oligonucleotide corresponding to amino acid
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sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:51

<220>
<221> misc_feature
<222> (1)..(21)
<223> Oligonucleotide corresponding to conserved amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:51
<400> 62
gaggagctgc tggagatgct g

21

International application No.
PCT/US98/14528

n the fields searched search terms used) Relevant to claim No. 1,3,5,7,10,13,
Relevant to claim No.
Relevant to claim No. 1,3,5,7,10,13,
Relevant to claim No. 1,3,5,7,10,13,
1,3,5,7,10,13,
1,3,5,7,10,13,
1,3,5,7,10,13,
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15-22,24,26-46,
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1,3,5,7,10, 1 15-22,24,26-4 49,50

International application No. PCT/US98/14528

Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No
COLBY et al. 4S-Limonene Synthase from the Oil Glands of Spearmint (Mentha spicata). The Journal of Biological Chemistry. 05 November 1993. Vol. 268, No. 31, pages 23016-23024, see especially pages 23017-23018.	1,3,5,7,10, 13, 15-22,24,26-46, 49,50
YUBA et al. cDNA Cloning, Characterization, and Functional Expression of 4S(-)-Limonene Synthase from Perilla frutescens. Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics. 15 August 1996. Vol. 332, No. 21, pages 280287, see especially pages 281-282.	1,3,5,7,10,13, 15-22,24,26-46, 49,50
BOHLMANN et al. Terpenoid-based defenses in conifers: cDNA cloning, characterization, and functional expression of wound-inducible (E)-alpha-bisabolene synthase from grand fir (Abies grandis). PNAS USA. June 1998. Vol 95, No. 12, pages 6756-6761, see entire document.	1-46,49,50
BOHLMANN et al. Monoterpene Synthases from Grand Fir (Abies grandis): cDNA Isolation, Characterization, and Functional Expression of Myrcene Synthase, (-)-(4S)-Limonene Synthase, and (-)-(1S,5S)-Pinene Synthase. The Journal of Biological Chemistry. 29 August 1997, Vol. 272, No. 35, pages 21784-21792, see entire document.	1-50
US 4,948,811 A (SPINNER et al.) 14 August 1990) see column 2, lines 20-54 and column 3, lines 57-50.	47, 48
	Spearmint (Mentha spicata). The Journal of Biological Chemistry. 05 November 1993. Vol. 268, No. 31, pages 23016-23024, see especially pages 23017-23018. YUBA et al. cDNA Cloning, Characterization, and Functional Expression of 4S(-)-Limonene Synthase from Perilla frutescens. Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics. 15 August 1996. Vol. 332, No. 21, pages 280287, see especially pages 281-282. BOHLMANN et al. Terpenoid-based defenses in conifers: cDNA cloning, characterization, and functional expression of wound-inducible (E)-alpha-bisabolene synthase from grand fir (Abies grandis). PNAS USA. June 1998. Vol 95, No. 12, pages 6756-6761, see entire document. BOHLMANN et al. Monoterpene Synthases from Grand Fir (Abies grandis): cDNA Isolation, Characterization, and Functional Expression of Myrcene Synthase, (-)-(4S)-Limonene Synthase, and (-)-(1S,5S)-Pinene Synthase. The Journal of Biological Chemistry. 29 August 1997, Vol. 272, No. 35, pages 21784-21792, see entire document. US 4,948,811 A (SPINNER et al.) 14 August 1990) see column 2,

International application No. PCT/US98/14528

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER: IPC (6):

A01H 5/00, 5/10; A23D 7/00; A23K 1/14; C07H 21/04; C07K 4/10; C12N 15/04, 15/63, 15/82

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Electronic data bases consulted (Name of data base and where practicable terms used):

APS, AGRICOLA, BIOSIS, EMBASE, WPIDS, MPSEARCH (for SEQ ID NO:1-6 and 46-53)

search terms: monoterpene synthase#, myrcene synthase#, pinene synthase#, gymnosperm?, grand fir, Abies grandis, A. grandis, oil, meal#

BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION WAS LACKING This ISA found multiple inventions as follows:

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be searched, the appropriate additional search fees must be paid.

Group I, claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 12, 15-17, 26-46, 49, and 50, drawn to nucleotide sequences encoding myrcene synthase from Grand fir (Abies grandis), vectors comprising the nucleotide sequence, plants transformed with the vectors, seeds made by the transformed plants, and to a method of using the nucleotide sequence, the first product, the first method of making the product, and the first method of using the first product.

Group II, claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 13, 15-17, 26-46, 49, and 50, drawn to nucleotide sequences encoding limonene synthase from Grand fir (Abies grandis), vectors comprising the nucleotide sequence, plants transformed with the vectors, and seeds made by the transformed plants, the second product.

Group III, claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 11, 14, 15-17, 26-46, 49, and 50, drawn to nucleotide sequences encoding pinene synthase from Grand fir (Abies grandis), vectors comprising the nucleotide sequence, plants transformed with the vectors, and seeds made by the transformed plants, the third product.

Group IV, claims 18-22 and 23, drawn to an isolated myrcene synthase protein from Grand fir (Abies grandis), the fourth product.

Group V, claims 18-22 and 24, drawn to an isolated limonene synthase protein from Grand fir (Abies grandis), the fifth product.

Group VI, claims 18-22 and 25, drawn to an isolated myrcene synthase protein from Grand fir (Abies grandis), the sixth product.

Group VII, claims 15-17, 26-46, 49, and 50, drawn to a method of using nucleotide sequences encoding limonene synthase from Grand fir (Abies grandis), the second method of using the second product.

Group VIII, claims 15-17, 26-46, 49, and 50, drawn to a method of using nucleotide sequences encoding pinene synthase from Grand fir (Abies grandis), the third method of using the third product.

Group IX, claims 47 and 48, drawn to oil and meal extracted from the seeds of Groups I-III, the seventh product.

The inventions listed as Groups I-IX do not relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: the products of Groups I-VI and IX are distinct. The methods of Groups VII and VIII do not utilize the product of Group I. PCT Rule 13 does not provide for multiple methods of using within a single application (37 CFR 1.475(d)).

International application No. PCT/US98/14528

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
Please See Extra Sheet.
1. X As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest
The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. X No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.